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More options to get home on NYE

Calgary Transit offering extended New Year's hours, upping cleanup and peace-officer staff **PAGE 3**

Chokehold case decision decried

Civil-rights leaders plan summit on racial justice after no charges are laid in death of Eric Garner **PAGE 24**

ONSCREEN CHEMISTRY OFFSCREEN?

NO WAY, SAYS BRADLEY COOPER OF SERENA CO-STAR J-LAW, 'I COULD BE HER FATHER' **PAGE 37**

EYE ON THE PRIZE

Colorado Avalanche goalie Semyon Varlamov gets checked by the Flames' Sven Baertschi as Colorado's Jan Hejda looks on during the first period in Calgary on Thursday. The Flames pulled out a 4-3 victory in overtime. For the story of the game, go to metronews.ca. LARRY MCDUGAL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prentice puts gay rights bill on hold

Divisive debate.
GSA members call for reform to align Bill 10 to Bill 202

Alberta's premier accepted responsibility for the "divisive debate" that's erupted over his party's gay-rights bill Thursday and said he would delay a final decision on the proposed measures until the new year.

Proponents say Bill 10 would create new avenues for students hoping to establish gay-straight alliances in schools, but it stops short of mandating that educators support the clubs.

Before Prentice's announcement, LGBTQ community members staged a rally and thousands signed an online petition voicing displeasure with the bill. Within the Tory party, former deputy premier Thomas Lukaszuk and others had also expressed concerns with the measures.

"The issue was polarizing to begin with and has become ever more so," Prentice conceded in a late-afternoon news

conference after the provincial legislature was promptly adjourned for the week.

"I accept responsibility for where we are. We'll pull back, we'll pause, we'll reconsider this and we'll hear from Albertans," the premier added.

Members of current GSAs — there are 45 operating in Calgary and Edmonton public schools collectively — say the clubs are open to all and meant to promote caring and understanding in their schools. Critics say Bill 10 stops short of addressing homophobia and transphobia.

"I want something to be done, but this isn't precise enough. This isn't what we asked for," said GSA member Zander Hartman, who attends Edmonton's Ross Sheppard School.

Sam Dyck, a member of the GSA at Calgary's Forest Lawn High School, agrees.

Dyck said that, before GSAs in his school, he was scared to walk down the halls or go into the bathroom. Now, the 16-year-old said his entire school has started to take part in gay-rights discussions.

"The whole school believes that Bill 10 is not right," Dyck said, adding Laurie Blakeman's Bill 202 is "perfect for Alberta."

Blakeman's bill would have mandated support for those hoping to establish a GSA. After Prentice's announcement, she said there was still hope to bring back her original proposal — but likely not until the new year.

Alberta NDP Leader Rachel Notley has also criticized the bill and said the measures proposed were a clear indication the ruling Tories are out of touch with average citizens.

"My response to this is that, rather than pressing pause on Bill 10, the government ought to simply be pressing delete completely," Notley said.

"It was so fundamentally flawed and so offensive to so many Albertans in so many ways." **LEAH HOLOIDAY AND JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO**

More coverage inside: Mike Morrison says he's cautiously optimistic after Tories back down on Bill 10 — page 8; Albertans from various walks of life define a GSA and what it represents — page 12

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Review. Killing of cougar was justified

A provincial review into the September killing of a cougar that wandered close to a Calgary hospital has found that responding officers made the right call.

Dramatic footage of the Sept. 18 incident emerged on social media after the cougar had wandered through a construction site and then nestled down in some grass near the entrance to the South Health Campus.

In a video captured by a horrified spectator inside the hospital, Alberta Fish and Wildlife officers could be seen closing in on the animal and then shooting it multiple times. At one point, the animal appeared to try to flee after being shot.

The incident sparked a heated debate, with some saying the animal should have been tranquilized or captured.

But a report posted online Thursday "found that euthanizing the cougar was the most appropriate response to ensure public safety, particularly as it was in an urban area."

The report adds: "Cougars are large predators whose speed and agility can make them difficult to contain and/or locate after being hit with a tranquilizer dart."

Fish and Wildlife officers followed "Alberta's cougar response matrix," as is protocol in cases of cougars entering urban areas, the report says.

"According to the matrix, euthanizing the cougar was an option because the animal failed to avoid humans ... and its presence was a public-safety risk," the report states. "The review found this approach is consistent with that of other jurisdictions."

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO



Calgary Transit director Doug Morgan stands beside the New Year's bus. Transit decided to extend hours this time around, giving folks more options to get home.
HELEN PIKE/METRO

Calgary Transit offers late New Year's hours

Auld Lang Syne. Riders looking for affordable ways home after the revelling have extended options at year's end



HELEN
PIKE
helen.pike@metronews.ca

No need to book a party bus this New Year's Eve — Calgary Transit has you covered.

Transit announced Thursday a pilot project to offer extended service for pub-crawl

crowds looking for affordable ways home. The CTrain will run every 15 minutes and buses 30-35 minutes, with last call from the core at 3 a.m.

In the past they have offered patrons a free ride after 6 p.m. but have opted to ask them to fork out a fare for longer service so they can test the waters on ridership in the wee hours on the festive night.

The hefty \$100,000 New Year's night tab includes the extra staff, 39 buses and 15 three-car CTrains, plus signage at each of the stops offering the extended service.

Late service

Stops 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 17, 24, 112 and 301 will be in service until 3 a.m.

But drinkers beware: Calgary Transit has also allocated part of the night's budget to having more peace officers present to keep riders safe.

"We want people to have fun but be respectful," said Doug Morgan, Calgary Transit director. "We will have our control centre up and running so they can mon-

itor the situation as needed, so we hope people will be respectful as they travel safe."

Pukers getting messy on transit wheels are also accounted for, with a fraction of the cost going toward a cleanup crew for the night's sloppy conditions.

"In those costs are also included enhanced services as far as bus cleaning and peace officers," Morgan said.

"Our real concern is making sure it's attractive to customers and we get ridership. Certainly it's an investment that we have to do, and we want to make sure it's useful."

1 NEWS

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ACAD feeling crunch: Students

Post-secondary funding. Cuts, even little ones, said to be impacting education quality

Provincial funding cuts are beginning to chip away at the educational experience at a Calgary arts college, warn students.

The Alberta College of Art and Design has managed to weather the storm created by a seven per cent slashing of post-secondary funds in 2013 without eliminating programs.

But Sarah Grodecki, president of the campus students' association, said course selections have been lost in the shuffle and, as a result, class sizes have ballooned a bit in certain areas.

Where the painting major once learned alongside 20 to 25 peers, classes are now cramming 30 or more learners in, she said.

"Although they have all the classes offered that you need to graduate, it cuts down on your

Tuition

- If approved, the market-modifier tuition hike at ACAD would bump the annual basic cost for fine arts and design students up to \$5,500 per year from \$4,479. The increase works out to an extra \$39 per credit.
- Data provided by the college suggests that average tuition for comparable degrees at other Alberta undergraduate institutions is \$5,730 annually.

options," Grodecki said. "There isn't really that flexibility to explore different things. That would be nice to have."

"Because we're so small, we're already strained. They're trying to keep everything we're about here, but it's at the point where you can't keep cutting post-secondary and expect them to meet these standards."

A Metro analysis of provincial funding done earlier

this year indicates the \$12.2 million ACAD received from the province for the 2014-15 school year is still about 2.7 per cent less than it received in 2012-13, the year before the drastic cuts.

Richard Brown, chair of the college's visual-arts school, said administrators did "streamline" some academic offerings this year but removed less than three per cent of the total classes available to students — 13 out of 475, to be exact.

"Given the economic climate that we're in, we've had to be really responsible, both in terms of a good, rigorous academic offering ... and then, also, we are required to do financial stewardship," he said.

Students also could fork out more to attend ACAD in the years ahead, as the college is among the institutions in the province pushing for so-called market-modifier tuition hikes in both of its bachelor degrees — fine arts and design. The province must approve the hikes and has yet to hand down a decision.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO



Sarah Grodecki, president of the Alberta College of Art and Design Students' Association, says a lack of provincial funding has made it tough for administrators at her college to balance their books without impacting learners.

HELEN PIKE/METRO

Union chief lauds AHS efforts to address Ebola worries



United Nurses of Alberta president Heather Smith. METRO FILE

Alberta Health Services has made "significant strides" in addressing concerns raised two months ago by nurses over Ebola preparations, according to the head of the nurses' union.

"We think that they have taken significant steps to acquire equipment and make modifications and changes to their protocols based on concerns that either we or other unions have raised," United Nurses of Alberta president Heather Smith told Metro.

In October, Smith said

By the numbers

3

Three patients have been "queried" for Ebola in Alberta, according to AHS. All three tested negative for the virus.

nurses came to AHS officials with a variety of concerns over safety in the event that a case of the deadly infectious disease were to arrive in Alberta.

"We didn't have regular training in terms of putting

on and taking off protective equipment; we didn't have protective equipment; we didn't have procedures and protocols in place — all of that had to be very rapidly redeveloped," Smith said.

Nurses held weekly meetings with AHS officials over Ebola preparations — now scaled back to biweekly meetings — she added, in addition to regular "email conversations."

Calgary's South Health Campus began running mock Ebola scenarios in October,

and in November a patient was transferred immediately into isolation at the designated Ebola facility after arriving at the Peter Lougheed Centre with symptoms that caused concern. She later tested negative for Ebola.

Dr. Richard Musto, medical officer of health for the Calgary Zone, said she was the third patient in Alberta to be "queried" for Ebola.

So far, there have been no confirmed cases of the disease in Canada.

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

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An image from the 36-page booklet titled "How to build a great city" recently published by the Urban Development Institute-Calgary and Canadian Home Builders' Association — Calgary Region. CONTRIBUTED

Developers launch booklet ahead of talks with city

Smartergrowth.ca.

Booklets to complement existing website from development industry



ROBSON FLETCHER

robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

Advocacy groups for Calgary's development and homebuilding industries have launched a new print publication as part of a larger initiative they say is aimed largely at educating their own members about the impacts of the city's rapid growth.

"People really don't realize the pace at which we have grown and are likely to grow," said Guy Huntingford, CEO of the Urban Development Institute-Calgary (UDI), which is collaborating on the effort with the Calgary chapter of the Canadian Home Builders' Association (CHBA).

Together they have printed a 36-page booklet titled "How to build a great city" that they say is the first of several such publications to come.

Huntingford said some booklets were sent to councillors and senior staff at city hall, some will be distributed in show homes for prospective homebuyers to read, but "the bulk of them" are going to people within the industry.

"We felt we needed to spend some time as an industry to understand the facts and educate, first of all, our industry," said CHBA CEO Donna Moore.

The booklets are part of a larger initiative and website dubbed "Smarter Growth,"

and come as both the city and industry are positioning themselves to renegotiate the basic financial terms surrounding the costs of growth.

The current standard development agreement is set to expire at the end of 2015 and the city has signalled it wants to increase developers' share of certain infrastructure costs to 100 per cent, up from the current 50 per cent level, among other changes.

Huntingford said the industry is "absolutely aware" of the city's positions and while he may not agree with all of them, his "overarching" goal is to find "common ground."

"Of course," he added, "the devil's in the details."

Industry advocacy

"This is the beginning of dialogue, not only between the industry and the city, but anybody who's interested in development and building a great city." Guy Huntingford, CEO of the Urban Development Institute

December 4-18



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Police bust alleged crack lab

Couple arrested.
\$250,000 worth of illegal drugs, guns and cars seized by officers

Police have seized a quarter-million dollars worth of drugs and arrested a Calgary couple who now face 51 criminal charges.

Officers executed three search warrants on Nov. 27 and arrested Taylor Zazoni, 23, and Kayla Wright, 30.

In one search of an apartment in Calgary's Mission neighbourhood, police found what they say was a lab being used to convert cocaine to crack. Officers seized a hydraulic cocaine press from the apartment.

In another search of an

apartment along 17th Avenue, police found a .357 Magnum revolver with the serial number defaced, as well as ammunition, brass knuckles and body armour.

In total, Calgary police and RCMP, working under the umbrella of the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams, seized 488 grams of cocaine, 390 grams of methamphetamine, 229 grams

of heroin, 319 millilitres of GHB, 358 pills of Fentanyl, 35 grams of cannabis resin and 2.25 kilograms of Phenacetin, as well as cash and two "luxury model" SUVs.

Zazoni and Wright were both arrested at a downtown condominium.

Zazoni faces 33 criminal charges, and Wright faces 18 charges. **METRO**



Items seized in a Nov. 27 raid on a Calgary condo. SUBMITTED

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GRASSROOTS SCUTTLE ILL-CONCEIVED BILL 10



IN DEFENCE OF
Mike Morrison
calgary@metronews.ca

Have you ever seen anything like it?

In the 43 years the PC party has been in charge, have you ever seen them cave to public pressure like they did over the much-maligned Bill 10?

I know I haven't.

Actually, I'm not even sure what happened this week. I know that in an effort to protect a few misguided parents' rights, the PC government almost passed a bill so controversial it garnered national attention.

Of course, almost all of it was negative.

But not all of it. Bill 10 also did something great. It was controversial enough that it caused everyday people, you know, "the unelecteds," to do something special. It caused them to take to Twitter and Facebook, to email their MLAs and demand to be listened to. It galvanized grassroots Albertans.

That's something I know that happened this week.

One thing I don't know is where we stand now that Bill 10 has been put on hold indefinitely. After all, it still exists. The PCs didn't scrap it. I don't know who Jim Prentice is going to consult, because he didn't consult anyone before pushing ahead with Bill 10.

But here are some more things that I do know. I know I won't forget about it when it inevitably comes back into play. I also know that Sec 11.1, which essentially

deems every conversation about sexual orientation as offensive, is still very much on the books. I know that so many PCs still supported this bill that if it wasn't for so much outcry, it would have sailed right through.

The only reason Bill 10 didn't pass is because of Albertans.

I also know that on top of stopping — sorry, pausing — Bill 10, we let the kids of Alberta know that they aren't alone. I remember all too well what it was like to grow up in an anti-LGBTQ environment, and in some cases, thanks to technology, it's only gotten worse.

Hopefully those kids now know that while some days might be rougher than others, they are not alone. There are thousands of Albertans, from every religion, race, political affiliation and postal code that support them. The PC government couldn't tell them that, so I'm so glad that we did.

Bill 10 showed that there are still a lot of negative beliefs in Alberta, particularly in our legislature. But I also think it showed that there are way more forward-thinking Albertans than even I thought there were.

Not once this week did I feel like I couldn't proudly talk about the rights of everyone. Not once did I feel like I couldn't wave a Pride flag. And if that's all that came out of this terrible week in Alberta, then I'm OK with that.

That's what I know, at least for now.

MIKE MORRISON WRITES MIKE'S BLOGGITY BLOG AND TWEETS FROM @MIKEBLOGGITY

Legislative attitudes

Bill 10 showed that there are still a lot of negative beliefs in Alberta, particularly in our legislature.

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N.J. governor. U.S. needs to think of Canada: Christie

New Jersey's governor and one of the Republican party's top prospects to make a run for the White House in 2016 says Americans don't put enough stock in their relationship with Canada.

Chris Christie travelled to Calgary Thursday to meet with Premier Jim Prentice and talk about energy.

His message is similar to the one he delivered on a trip to Mexico earlier this year: U.S. foreign policy should focus on its neighbours first.

"I've gotten the impression over time, watching American foreign policy, that Canada has been an afterthought and I believe it should be a first thought," he said.

"I don't think we pay enough attention to this relationship as Americans in general. I've made a very conscious decision to come to Canada and to come here to Alberta because we should treat our friends with both respect and attention."

Christie is a big supporter of the controversial Keystone XL pipeline that would carry



New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, right, and Premier Jim Prentice.
LARRY MACDOUGAL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alberta oilsands crude to the U.S. Gulf Coast and he was happy to show it Thursday.

"It should be approved," he said.

Christie was to give a speech to the Calgary Chamber of Commerce before travelling to Ottawa on Friday for a meeting with Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

The governor is considered one of the Republican party's front-runners to take a shot at the presidency in 2016, but he was coy about any future aspirations Thursday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

City reveals designs for 3 south-end skateparks

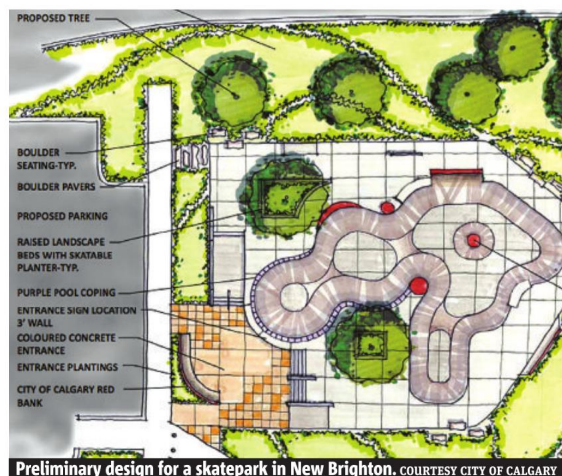
Not just a 'big concrete bowl.'
Designs tailored to specific communities



JEREMY NOLAIS
jeremy.nolais@metronews.ca

City recreation officials have rolled out preliminary designs for three decked-out skateparks and are eyeing methods to ramp up construction after initial plans ground to a crawl earlier this year.

The latest designs, presented at community open houses, are Phase 2 skateparks in Mid-Sun and Deer Run, as well as a skate spot in Midnapore. They come on top of similar developments planned for Huntington Hills, South-



Preliminary design for a skatepark in New Brighton. COURTESY CITY OF CALGARY

manager of sport development and partnerships.

Officials had originally hoped to jumpstart construction on the initial skateparks this year, but are instead holding off — tentatively — until spring of 2015.

Steinraths said, however, there's a possibility of lumping together all six projects and two more still to be unveiled at future open houses in Bowness and Edgemont.

"We're just looking at different strategies ... we want to get the ball moving as soon as possible," Steinrath said.

Overall, the city's own study has determined that having 50 skateboarding spots would be the "gold standard," but Steinrath said his team will continue to evaluate the supply and demand of such sites.

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Preliminary designs for skateparks in Midnapore and Deer Run (inset). COURTESY CITY OF CALGARY

Badger in a bind. Roadside burrow worries locals

A condominium board in Winston Heights is worried after finding a badger burrowed in a bad spot.

The lovable animal has found a home on a busy intersection and Blair Cosgrove said he fears the striped animal will turn into roadkill if it isn't soon saved from its metropolitan home.

"Badgers are really rare in the city, so we wanted to help him," Cosgrove said. "We're hoping to capture him, if it's possible, and relocate him outside the city, so there's some discussion going about who can do that and when."

The badger hasn't been named yet and has been sighted only once.

It's still unclear whether the critter will make it back to the wild, or have to board inside for the winter. Cosgrove said the Alberta Institute for Wildlife Conservation offered to take the badger if it's captured.

"One of the people in the province said it's still early enough in the winter that (it) could be successful in digging another burrow somewhere else," Cosgrove said. "But if the ground gets frozen I think that becomes less of an option."

HELEN PIKE/METRO



A badger has made a home in Winston Heights. METRO FILE

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What is a GSA?

IN THEIR OWN WORDS — WHAT IS A GAY-STRAIGHT ALLIANCE? WHAT DOES IT REPRESENT TO YOU?

BILL 202 AND BILL 10 HAVE SPURRED A BROADER DISCUSSION ABOUT GAY RIGHTS AND THE IMPORTANCE OF GAY-STRAIGHT ALLIANCES IN ALBERTA SCHOOLS. METRO POLLED A VARIETY OF ALBERTANS FROM DIFFERENT WALKS OF LIFE ON WHAT THEY BELIEVE A GSA IS AND WHAT IT REPRESENTS IN BROADER SOCIETY.

Compiled by Jeremy Nolais, Stephanie Dubois and Leah Holodday/Metro



Laurie Blakeman,
Alberta Liberal and
Bill 202 sponsor

"GSAs are peer support groups. They create safe spaces at school for LGBTIQ students, children of LGBTIQ parents and allies to gather and support each other.... By bringing forward Bill 202, I could help legislate GSAs at any school where a student asked to form one."

Joy Bowen-Eyre,
trustee chair for
Calgary Board of
Education

"Our mission emphasizes the obligation and responsibility of each one of us to create conditions for each young person to thrive, including gender and sexual minority youth."



**Rev. James Allan with
Edmonton's Robertson
Wesley United Church**

"As a congregation, we are a GSA ourselves. Personally, I'm really concerned about the suicides reported in schools. People need to understand that it's really about being respectful towards each other."



**Tory MLA
Thomas
Lukaszuk, one
of few in his
party who said
Bill 10 wasn't
enough**

"On the symbolic side, it became the symbol of inequality.... On a practical side, it is often the only way a child can get support when they're marginalized, when their parents are not accepting or in denial or even kick them out of the house."



**Sarah Hoffman, trustee chair
for Edmonton Public Schools**

"Teachers and students work together to create welcoming, safe and inclusive spaces. Research shows that schools with GSAs see less incidents of bullying and disrespectful behaviour overall."



**Druh Farrell, Ward 7 City of
Calgary councillor**

"It acts as a bridge and it humanizes people who stereotype each other. It's always a good thing when you bring people together who are different to show how very similar they really are.... We're not all of the same religion but we're all human."



**Pam Rocker, affirming and
creative co-ordinator at
Hillhurst United Church**

"Our core human desire is to not feel alone in the world. To know that we are seen, heard and valued. It doesn't get more simple or sacred than this. GSAs embody this sacred longing in action, by tangibly creating a space for those who feel the least seen/heard/valued to belong."



**Jon Cornish,
Calgary Stampede
running back**

"A place where anyone can come together and support each other. I wish I had a similar support network while I was growing up."



**Zander Hartman,
Edmonton student
and GSA member**

"A gay-straight alliance is a place that provides a safe space for anyone in the school. Most of all, a GSA provides support and community for kids who don't necessarily have that anywhere else."



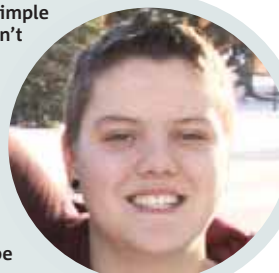
**Kristopher Wells
with the Institute
for Sexual
Minority Studies
at the U of A**

"Gay-straight alliances are student-led and teacher-facilitated support groups focused on sexual-orientation and gender-identity issues in K-12 schools. The research is clear. GSAs help to reduce risk factors and improve school connectedness."



**Sam Dyck, Calgary student
and representative of the
Forest Lawn GSA**

"What is a GSA? It's simple — it's a family that isn't blood, an accepting place to be, and you can rely on it no matter what. It's inspirational, filled with change-makers and life changes. A place to express who you are and let yourself be free."



Jason Vezina, Edmonton resident

"I attended high school over a decade ago and said many homophobic things that I'm embarrassed of today. A GSA would have allowed LGBTQ students to be open about who they are, to feel safe in their environment and to show the rest of the students that there was absolutely no reason to be afraid."



**Alexandra Jurisic, president
of the Calgary Catholic
Teachers Association**

"Our goal is to ensure that GLBQT youth feel welcome in our schools. This is part of a broader policy on anti-harassment and bullying and our commitment and desire to build student resiliency in adapting to life's challenges."



**Linda Wellman, trustee
chair for the Calgary
Catholic School District**

"Gay-straight alliances are not unlike our current practices and policies that we have instilled to create a safe and caring school environment for all of our students. We believe in fostering inclusive communities in our schools."



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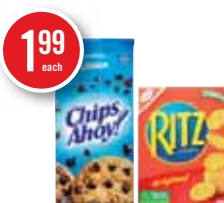
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Progress on homelessness in Calgary not yet enough: Panel

Co-ordinated strategy. All levels of government and various community agencies need to work together, leaders say



ROBSON FLETCHER

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Calgary's homeless situation is better than it was six years ago, but a broader and more co-ordinated strategy addressing housing, mental health and aboriginal-specific issues is needed to truly end the problem, leaders of five major agencies said Thursday.

"I believe we can end homelessness.... I am an optimist," Diana Krecsy, CEO of the Calgary Homeless Foundation, told a gathering of about 45 people at the Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Association, organized by Calgary-Mountain View Liberal MLA David Swann.

Prior to 2008, Krecsy said homelessness in Calgary was growing at a rate of 35 per cent annually, but it has since levelled off.

Homelessness rates are now down about two per cent from 2008 in Calgary, she said, and about 16 per cent across Alberta.

"No other province can say they're doing that," Krecsy said.



Calgary-Mountain View Liberal MLA David Swann listens to a question from the audience at a forum on homelessness solutions at the Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Association on Thursday evening. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

"It's great but it's not enough, and we need to do more."

Abe Brown, director of programs for the Calgary Drop-In Centre, which sees 7,000 separate individuals make use of its service each month, said many have "significant mental-health issues" that need to be better and more broadly addressed.

"Our folks don't choose

homelessness," he said. "They don't choose to wake up on a mat in the morning. They really are there because they don't have any other options."

Addiction often goes hand-in-hand with life on the street, said Sue Fortune of the Alex Community Health Centre, particularly for the roughly two per cent of shelter users

who are chronically homeless.

Those people will need long-term, supported housing to break the cycle, she added.

"We have a very high rate of active addiction, primarily to alcohol and crack cocaine," Fortune said. "They need to have sober living options for a year or maybe two to be successful in overcoming that."

Quoted

"Leaving people in homelessness costs the Calgary region more than housing them and providing them with intensive supports."

Sue Fortune of the Alex Community Health Centre

Aboriginal plight

Healing happens at home: Centre

"Housing First" is an increasingly common approach among those trying to end homelessness, but Linda McLean of Inn from the Cold says there are more fundamental issues that need to be addressed in Calgary specifically.


More than half of the people that Inn From the Cold — the largest family shelter in Calgary — serves are aboriginal, McLean said, and most of the family struggles with homelessness are nothing new.

"The parents of the children we work with have themselves grown up in homelessness and transience and trauma," she said.

It's apparent in many of their cases, McLean added, that "250 years of systematic oppression" of aboriginal people — particularly the forced removal of children from their families as part of Canada's residential-schools program of the 20th century — continues to leave a legacy today.

Kathy Christiansen of Alpha House Calgary, a detox and addictions outreach centre, said aboriginal people are greatly over-represented among the clients she sees. "Healing does happen in someone's home," Christiansen said. "It doesn't happen while you're sleeping outside. It doesn't happen in a shelter."

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Alberta looks to update traffic laws

Alberta is looking at driver testing, right-hand-drive vehicles and carpool lanes on provincial highways as the province looks to update its traffic act.

The province released an online survey earlier this week and urged Albertans to share their views. The survey will remain open for comment until January.

Christine Wronko, with Alberta's Ministry of Transportation, said it's part of the process

of keeping the legislation current.

"We want to make sure that our legislation is up to date," she said.

Wronko said that, with the province's unique approach to driver training, it's important to ensure it's being done right.

"Alberta is the only jurisdiction that licenses private-sector individuals to be driver examiners, so we just want to be sure the examiners are conducting

Quoted

"We want to make sure that our legislation is up to date."

Christine Wronko, with Alberta's Ministry of Transportation

the program in a fair way," she said.

Wronko said they have no indication that anything untoward is happening but they

like to use the surveys to check in.

She said right-hand-drive vehicles are also a growing concern, and the province wants to know what the public believes should be done about them.

"We do know that they pose a safety risk, based on the research that we have, because our roadways aren't engineered for right-hand-drive vehicles," Wronko said.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO IN EDMONTON



Christine Thomson-Hunter, left, and Tom Daumler hope more Calgarians will join the Snow Angels campaign for the 2014-15 winter season.

YASMIN JASWAL/FOR METRO

Calgary drive encourages helping hands

Snow angel. City of Calgary wants its citizens to be angels this winter season

Quoted

"You don't do it for the pat on the back; it's just good to do it."

Tom Daumler, snow angel contest participant. He will be joined by co-ordinator Christine Hunter-Thompson and many other Calgarians for the 2014 initiative.

YASMIN JASWAL

calgary@metronews.ca

For the past 10 years, Calgarians have been acting like angels for their neighbours, and the city hopes the trend will continue.

"That spirit of community neighbours helping neighbours is really what we want to see out there," said Christine Thomson-Hunter, co-ordinator of the snow-angels campaign.

"Loads of snow angels come forward to do that."

The snow-angels campaign encourages Calgarians to help out their neighbours by shoveling their sidewalks and driveways.

According to Thomson-Hunter, last year the city recognized more than 1,200 snow angels, but there could

have been more out there.

"Snow angels do it for the sake of doing it. They don't always come forward. They don't always get nominated," she said.

The campaign never sets a number of nominees they hope to recognize each year. For Thomson-Hunter, the real goal of the campaign is to increase the number of Calgarians helping one another during winter.

Each nominee receives a letter of recognition from Mayor Naheed Nenshi, as well as a snow angels pin and scarf.

Tom Daumler and his entire family are snow angels, and he said each time he, his wife or his kids goes out to shovel their own driveway and sidewalk, they make sure to do the same for their elderly neighbours.

"You don't do it for a pat on the back; it's just good to do it," Daumler said. "It's just being a good neighbour."

For more information or to nominate a snow angel, visit calgary.ca/snowangels.

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ALERT. No budget cuts planned, province says

The provincial government says it has no intention of cutting funding from the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Team, despite comments from the group's chair that he was asked to prepare for a smaller budget.

Edmonton Police commissioner Shami Sandhu, who is also chair of ALERT's board, said he's been asked to prepare a budget that would amount to dozens fewer officers.

"We're looking at, approximately, a loss of 70 positions to fulfil the budget target that they have given us," he said.

The ALERT program includes specialized units to tackle Internet child exploitation, organized crime and gangs, marijuana grow-ops, fugitive apprehension and surveillance. The officers are pulled into the team from police agencies across the province.

Sandhu said he drafted a business plan in line with what the province had asked for and the effect would have been serious.

"There are some entire programs that will get cut out of

ALERT, others will get watered down and they will lose their effectiveness," he said.

Jessica Jacobs-Mino, a spokeswoman for Justice Minister Jonathan Denis, said the province has no intention of lowering the group's funding next year.

"It will remain the same in 2015-2016 as it is this year and that is sufficient enough to support current staffing," she said.

She didn't comment on Sandhu's suggestion, but insisted the funding would remain the same.

"I'm not sure what he means by that, but I can tell you from the provincial level that our funding levels are remaining the same," she said. "I think there was a misunderstanding."

Edmonton Police Chief Rod Knecht said the ALERT units bring officers from different forces together is valuable.

"It's a force multiplier when you are working with our colleagues, particularly in the Edmonton dynamic where we are surrounded by another jurisdiction," he said.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO IN EDMONTON

Swimmer and scholar unfazed by hectic life

Prodigy on two fronts. Bogdan Knezevic earns Rhodes scholarship, may compete in Olympics



JEREMY NOLAÏS

jeremy.nolais@metronews.ca

Bogdan Knezevic swims hard, studies hard — and he seemingly never loses his cool.

"He's out there doing things that are beyond the norm ... he goes about his swimming and his academics with such an amount of ease," said Mike Blondal, swim coach at the University of Calgary, where Knezevic attends classes and competes for the Dinos.

"He's not very stressed, he doesn't come in upset about his workload. It doesn't seem

to bother him."

When he's not in the pool, Knezevic is delving into the lofty academic field of infectious diseases and immunology — he's watched closely as the Ebola virus has killed thousands in West Africa and hopes to some day make a difference in saving lives.

"I wanted to take my ambitions and my drive into the medical sciences and see how I can globalize it," he said.

"These are diseases that are prevalent across all classes, all countries, all areas of the world. So, they are an issue everywhere and that knowledge can be useful anywhere in the world."

To save the world, some might suggest you need to see the world.

Knezevic will now get a chance to do just that as he's been named a Rhodes Scholar and will attend England's prestigious Oxford University.



Bogdan Knezevic. CONTRIBUTED

age during his five years at the U of C.

Now, he said, it will be a tad bittersweet to leave his school — and the Dinos swim crew — behind.

Initially, Knezevic said he was willing to give up his sporting endeavours, but has since been acquainted with the coaches at Oxford and hopes to continue on with finding a balance between the two worlds.

The talk, according to Blondal, is that Knezevic has a legitimate shot at swimming for his native Serbia in the 2016 Olympics.

After that, Knezevic said he has full intentions of returning to his adopted home.

"I hope to do medical school in Canada," he said. "It's one thing to learn about patient interaction from a textbook and theory, it's quite another thing to experience it for yourself."



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Knezevic is bound for Oxford University after maintaining a near-flawless academic record over five years at the University of Calgary. He's also been a top swimmer with the national team and hopes to race in the 2016 Olympics. IMAGE COURTESY DAVID MOLL

Forest Lawn

Man faces charges after home raided

Alberta law-enforcement investigations have shuttered a "problem property" in the community of Forest Lawn and seized weapons and drugs from the home.

A 51-year-old man has been charged in connection with the bust undertaken by the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams' Safe Communities and Neighbourhoods team.

Investigators raided the home Nov. 13 and seized numerous weapons, including a sawed-off shotgun.

On Nov. 27, City of Calgary building inspectors with Alberta Health Services declared the property unfit for human habitation. The home has since been boarded up. **METRO**

July 9, 2015

Lambert to play at Calgary Stampede

The Calgary Stampede announced the latest musician who will play at next

year's Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth.

Country music star Miranda Lambert is the third artist announced for the 2015 Virgin Mobile Stampede Concert Series.

Lambert will be in town at the Scotiabank Saddledome July 9 and tickets go on sale Dec. 12 at 10 a.m.

Tickets start at \$49.50 and include admission to Stampede Park on the day of the concert. **METRO**

Children unhurt

Driver charged after bus struck

No children were injured and a driver was charged after a school bus carrying 25 students was rear-ended by a car in Okotoks Wednesday morning.

Around 8 a.m. Dec. 3, a yellow school bus had slowed to allow another car to make a left-hand turn, police said, when it was struck from behind by a Pontiac G6.

The male driver of the car was charged with following too closely. **METRO**



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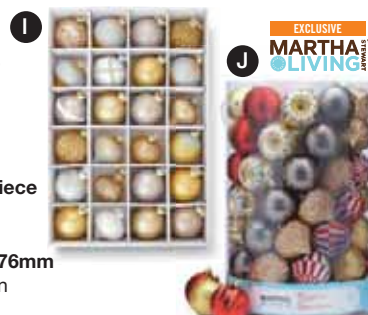


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Serial killings. Most recommendations from Pickton inquiry have been enacted, B.C. says

British Columbia's government says it has taken action on 75 per cent of the recommendations made two years ago after a public inquiry into the Robert Pickton serial killings.

Attorney General Suzanne Anton says the actions are helping vulnerable women and include expanding cell-phone service along the so-

called Highway of Tears, a remote stretch of northern highway where women and girls have disappeared.

Anton says the government has also passed legislation that helps police find missing people, and some of the children of missing and murdered women have received \$50,000 compensation payments.

Pickton was convicted in 2007 of the second-degree murders of six women and was sentenced to life in prison, although he admitted to killing 49 women and the DNA or remains of 33 were found on his farm.

A commission of inquiry into the Pickton case made 63 recommendations in De-

cember 2012, including funding a 24-hour centre in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside for sex workers and starting a transportation service along the Highway of Tears.

Anton says the government continues to work on improving transportation options along that stretch of highway. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



25 years after the massacre

Students walk through Parkdale Collegiate Institute in Toronto during a vigil Thursday, holding a photo of one of 14 women killed in the mass shooting at École Polytechnique in Montreal on Dec. 6, 1989.

DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Cyberbullying brothers jailed

'Sextortion'. Two 17-year-olds harassed girl, 14, demanding explicit images

Two Manitoba brothers have been sentenced to 16 months in jail after what a judge called a "relentless attack" of cyberbullying and sexual exploitation designed to "exploit, demean and humiliate" a 14-year-old girl.

Judge Donald Slough said a friend of the brothers met the girl on Facebook a year ago. In his written sentence released Thursday, Slough said the man told the victim to send him nude pictures or "he would do something to her."

When she sent him a picture of her exposed breasts, the man demanded she send more explicit pictures or he would send her nude picture to everyone in the community, Slough said. She complied.

The brothers, who were 17 at the time and cannot be named, found out about the

pictures and started harassing the victim, Slough said.

"The communication was intense and relentless, occurring both day and night," the judge wrote.

"The accused, acting in tandem, alternatively flattered and abused the victim, demanding progressively more explicit images, instructing the victim as to what sexual acts she was to perform and digitally record." The brothers were arrested in May and pleaded guilty to four charges, including sexual touching and possession and distribution of child pornography.

Slough said the impact on the 14-year-old has been "devastating and long-lasting."

Experts say this kind of "sextortion" is becoming more common. The Canadian Centre for Child Protection recently warned it is seeing an alarming increase in the number of teens who are sharing sexual images of themselves and then being extorted, sometimes for money. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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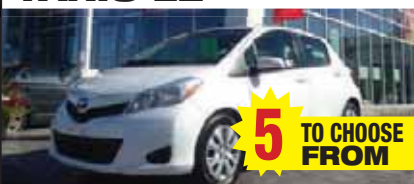
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Tory Bill S-7 facing criticism

Zero Tolerance for Barbaric Cultural Practices Act. Bill seeks to keep polygamists out of country, prevent forced marriages

The need for — and even the name of — a new Conservative bill aimed at barring polygamous and forced marriages came under fire Thursday in the Senate.

Bill S-7, entitled the “Zero Tolerance for Barbaric Cultural Practices Act,” amends immigration and criminal laws with the aim of keeping polygamists out of Canada and preventing women and girls from being married against their will.

“We wish we could say in the Canada of 2014 that these were no longer challenges for us domestically,” Immigration Minister Chris Alexander told the Senate human-rights committee. “But as we know from communities across the coun-

Inside the bill

The new law would deny entry to Canada to those seeking to practise polygamy.

- It would also require “free and enlightened consent to marriage,” sets a federal minimum age for marriage at 16 and makes it an offence for anyone younger than that to be taken out of Canada to be married elsewhere.

try and from the daily fact of violence against women, there remain challenges, and we remain duty-bound to act against them.”

Conservative Sen. Raynell Andreychuk raised concerns, however, that the government’s stated goal of combating violence risks being overshadowed by the bill’s dramatic title. However, Alexander defended the name. The fact it has generated debate means it’s already doing its job, he argued. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



B.C. to euthanize birds under quarantine

A poultry farm under quarantine because of an outbreak of avian influenza is pictured in Chilliwack, B.C., on Thursday. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency says that there are now four farms in the Fraser Valley under quarantine due to the outbreak. Harpreet Kochhar, Canada’s chief veterinary officer, said federal and provincial government agencies will be looking for any sign the virus has moved beyond those four farms. Kochhar said it’s still not clear how the birds at the first two farms were infected. The agency focused on the additional farms because they had each received birds from the Chilliwack chicken operation. All of the birds that are still alive at the four farms will be euthanized.

PHOTO: JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS; TEXT: THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lawyer, lead plaintiff

Plea made for feds to recognize loss of cultural identity

The federal government needs to admit that thousands of aboriginal children were robbed of their cultural identities instead of continuing to fight a

lawsuit, the lead plaintiff and her lawyer said Thursday.

Their comments follow a Divisional Court ruling dismissing Ottawa’s attempt to have the \$1.3-billion class action thrown out. The lawsuit alleges the children caught up in the so-called ‘60s Scoop suffered a devastating loss of cultural identity.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Effort against ISIL

No civilian deaths from Canadian airstrikes: Military

The Canadian military is confident that no civilians have been killed to date as a result of its airstrikes against the Islamic State of Iraq and

the Levant (ISIL), a spokesman said Thursday.

That assurance came as the country’s joint operations command revealed details of two additional bombing missions that took place on Nov. 28 and Nov. 30.

Navy Capt. Paul Forget said there has been no indication of so-called “collateral damage.” **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

16 seats empty

Harper in no rush to fill Senate seats

Prime Minister Stephen Harper says he’s in no hurry to fill vacancies in the Senate.

Harper said he’s not hearing much popular support for naming new members to the upper chamber, where

16 of the 105 seats remain empty — and the Conservatives still hold a healthy majority.

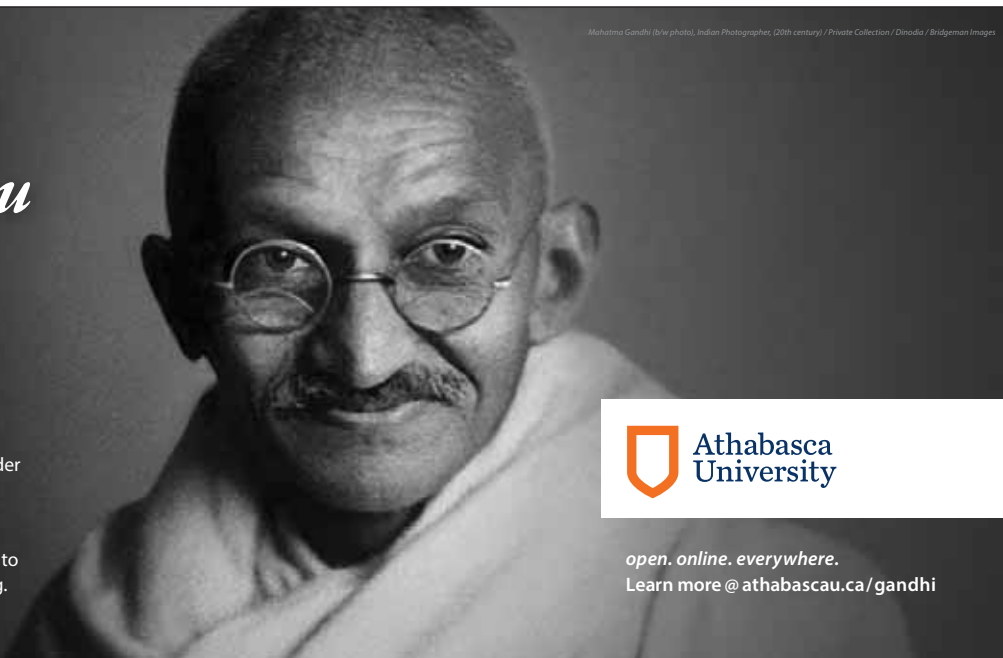
Harper’s latest comments were prompted by concerns raised by newly appointed Senate Speaker Pierre Claude Nolin, who said he believes the shortage of senators is affecting the chamber’s productivity. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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NE121G414

20 dead. Chechnya's capital city attacked

Police waged hours-long gunbattles with Islamic militants who attacked Chechnya's capital Thursday, leaving at least 20 people dead and underscoring Russia's vulnerability just as President Vladimir Putin used patriotic and religious imagery in his state-of-the-nation address to defend his standoff with the West.

The clashes in Grozny, the city's biggest in years, dented a carefully nurtured image of stability created by Chechnya's Kremlin-backed strongman after two separatist conflicts. The new violence raised fears of more attacks in Chechnya and widening unrest in the rest of Russia's volatile North Cau-

casus region.

The Kavkaz Centre website, a mouthpiece for Islamic militant groups operating in the North Caucasus, carried a link to a video by an individual claiming responsibility for the attack. The man in the video said he was operating on orders from Emir Khamzat, reportedly a nom de guerre of Chechen warlord Aslan Byutukayev. The claim could not immediately be verified.

The insurgents in Chechnya and other Caucasus regions want to create an independent state governed by their strict interpretation of Islamic law.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Yemen

Branch of al-Qaida threatens U.S. over hostage

Al-Qaida in Yemen released a video Thursday, after an American hostage was the

target of a rescue attempt by U.S. special forces last month, warning Washington not to try again, and giving it three days to meet unspecified demands.

"My life is in danger," photojournalist Luke Somers says in the footage.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Civil rights leaders decry decision in chokehold case

Death of Eric Garner. Second non-indictment of a police officer in as many weeks prompts civil rights groups to march on Washington

Civil rights leaders Thursday decried the grand jury decision not to charge a white police officer in the chokehold death of a black man and announced plans for a march and a summit on racial justice in Washington later this month.

National Urban League President Marc Morial said the lack of an indictment in the death of Eric Garner was "a travesty of justice."

The decision Wednesday not to bring charges against Officer Daniel Pantaleo triggered protests around the country and sent thousands into New York's streets, where they marched, chanted and blocked traffic.

Police said 83 people were arrested, mostly on disorderly conduct charges.

Pataleo's lawyer and police union officials argued that the grand jury got it right, saying that the officer used an authorized takedown move — not a banned chokehold — against a man who was resisting arrest. And they said Garner's poor health was the main cause of his death.

About 20 civil rights leaders met behind closed doors Thursday at the Rev. Al Sharpton's National Action Network headquarters. Sharpton said a civil rights summit will be held following a Dec. 13 march in Washington. He said the topics will include education and boycotts.

The Garner case — combined with the decision by a grand jury last week not to charge the white officer who shot and killed unarmed black 18-year-old Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo. — stirred a national conversation about race,



A demonstrator holds up a sign as he lies in the street with others protesting the deaths of two unarmed black men at the hands of white police officers during a march through Pittsburgh on Thursday. KEITH SRAKOCIC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

police training and the grand jury process.

Garner, 43, died after a scuffle broke out July 17 as officers tried to arrest him for sell-

ing untaxed cigarettes on the street. The medical examiner ruled that Pantaleo's chokehold on Garner contributed to his death. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Filipino villagers flee as typhoon nears region devastated last year

Typhoon Hagupit. Might make landfall in Eastern Samar province on Saturday

Villagers in the central Philippines fled coastal homes and triggered panic-buying in grocery stores and gas stations as a fast-approaching powerful storm brought back nightmares of last year's deadly onslaught by Typhoon Haiyan.

Typhoon Hagupit — Filipino for “smash” — was packing sustained winds of 205 kilometres per hour and gusts of up to 240 km/h over the Pacific, about 700 kilometres off the country's eastern coast. Forecasts show it may hit Eastern Samar province on Saturday and barrel inland along the same route where Haiyan levelled villa-



Residents of Leyte province, Philippines, evacuate to safer ground on Thursday. PAUL CINCO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ges and left more than 7,300 dead and missing in November last year.

Haiyan survivor Emily Sa-

gales said many of her still-edgy neighbours in central Tacloban city, which was ravaged by Haiyan, packed

their clothes and fled to a sports stadium and the safer homes of relatives. Long lines formed at grocery stores and

gas stations as residents stocked up on basic goods, she said.

“The trauma has returned,” the 23-year-old Sagales said. In the wake of last year's typhoon — which killed her mother-in-law and washed away her home — she gave birth to her first child, a girl, in a crowded makeshift clinic filled with the injured and dying near the Tacloban airport.

“It's worse now because I didn't have a baby to worry about last year,” she said.

“The sun is still shining, but people are obviously scared. Almost all of our rooms have been booked,” said Roan Florendo of the Leyte Park hotel, near San Pedro Bay in Tacloban. The military was put on alert, evacuation centres were opened and food, medicine and body bags were sent out.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Second time around?

Haiyan demolished about a million houses and displaced about four million people in the central Philippines. Hundreds of residents still living in tents in Tacloban have been prioritized in an ongoing evacuation.

- Hotels in Tacloban, a city of more than 200,000 people still struggling to recover from last year's massive damage, were running out of rooms as wealthier families booked ahead for the weekend.
- Cabinet secretary Mario Montejo said Thursday it was almost certain the typhoon would slam into the eastern coast.



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Yolanda Gutierrez, a two-year resident of a homeless encampment known as the Jungle, holds a sign in protest in San Jose, Calif., on Thursday. Police and social workers on Thursday began clearing away one of the nation's largest homeless encampments, a cluster of flimsy tents and plywood shelters that once housed more than 200 people in the heart of California's wealthy Silicon Valley. MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Police dismantle homeless camps

The Jungle. Despite a Monday notice, about 60 people remained Thursday morning

San Jose police and social workers on Thursday began clear-

ing away one of the largest U.S. homeless encampments, a cluster of flimsy tents and plywood shelters that once housed more than 200 people in the heart of California's wealthy Silicon Valley.

Authorities have been trying for years to resolve problems at the camp known as the

Jungle, including violence and unsanitary conditions.

On Monday, people living in the camp were given until Thursday to leave or face arrest for trespassing.

By Thursday morning, about 60 people were left at the garbage-strewn site.

Nancy Ortega sobbed as she

watched tractors load garbage into trash trucks.

Then a passing motorist shouted at those who had just been evicted.

"People drive by and look at us like we're circus animals," she said.

A few dozen protesters gathered at the site holding signs

reading "Homeless people matter" and "Stand with The Jungle." No arrests were reported.

With the camp cleared, officials planned to try to find shelter for the night for people connected with social services, although anyone not linked to a program still had to leave.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"People drive by and look at us like we're circus animals."

Nancy Ortega, resident of the homeless encampment known as the Jungle

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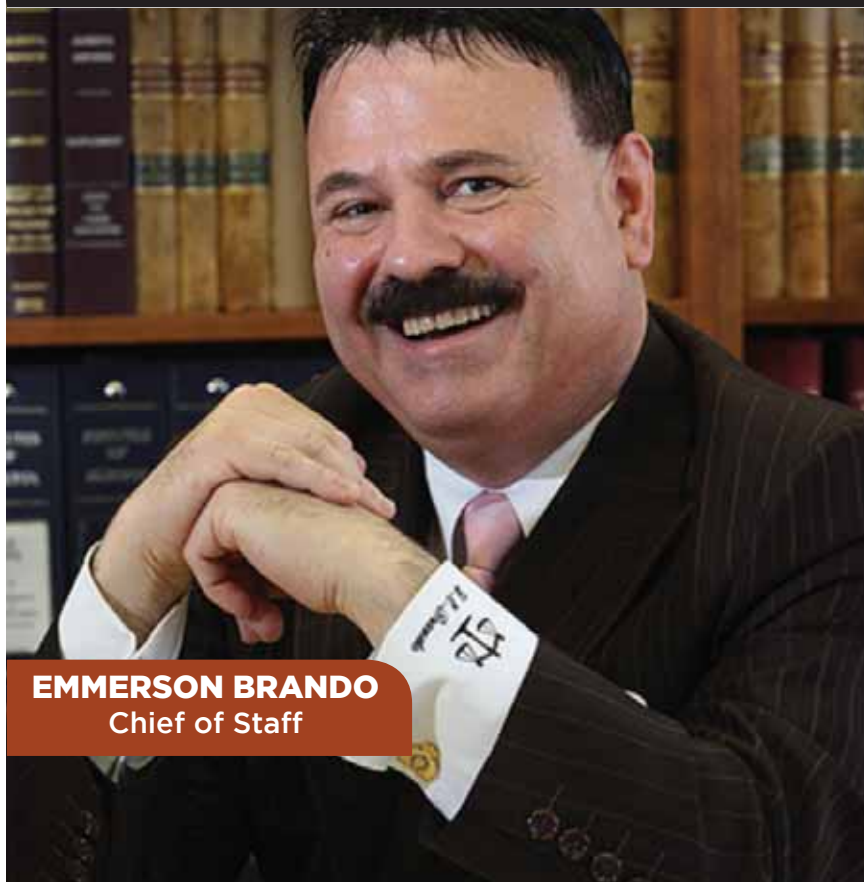
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Chimp not entitled to human freedoms

Animal rights.

Appeals court affirms that chimpanzees do not deserve basic rights such as freedom from imprisonment

A chimpanzee is not entitled to the rights of a human and does not have to be freed by its owner, a New York appeals court ruled Thursday.

The three-judge Appellate Division panel was unanimous in denying legal personhood to Tommy, who lives alone in a cage.

A trial-level court had previously denied the Nonhuman Rights Project's effort to have Tommy released. The group's lawyer, Steven Wise, told the appeals court in October that the chimp's living conditions are akin to a person in unlawful solitary confinement.

Wise argued that animals with human qualities, such as

Quoted

"Needless to say, unlike human beings, chimpanzees cannot bear any legal duties, submit to societal responsibilities or be held legally accountable for their actions."

From the decision, written by a three-judge appeal-court panel

chimps, deserve basic rights, including freedom from imprisonment. He has also sought the release of three other chimps in New York and said he plans similar cases in other states.

But the mid-level appeals court said there is no precedent for treating animals as persons and no legal basis.

"So far as legal theory is concerned, a person is any being whom the law regards as capable of rights and duties," the judges wrote. "Needless

to say, unlike human beings, chimpanzees cannot bear any legal duties, submit to societal responsibilities or be held legally accountable for their actions."

That, they ruled, makes it "inappropriate" to grant the rights of a human to the animal.

The Nonhuman Rights Project said it will appeal to the state's top court, citing other New York appeals-court rulings it says are at odds with Thursday's decision.

Tommy's owner, Patrick Lavery, said Thursday he was pleased and expected the ruling.

Tommy, believed to be about 40 years old, is a former entertainment chimp who was placed with Lavery about 10 years ago. Lavery said Tommy is cared for under strict state and federal licence rules.

The court noted there have been no claims that Tommy has been mistreated or any of those rules have been violated. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Prisoners crochet to honour Mandela

Ahead of the first anniversary of Nelson Mandela's death, inmates at the Zonderwater prison east of Pretoria, South Africa, have been making brightly colored blankets to commemorate the anti-apartheid leader who became the country's first black president. The prisoners have crocheted the blankets as part of a charity project for poor communities. **THEMBA HADEBE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Florida

School accused of promoting deceit

Prosecutors say a for-profit Florida college used exotic dancers as admissions officers, falsified documents and coached students to lie on financial forms as it fraudulently obtained millions in federal money.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Miracle'

Toddler recovering in Polish hospital

A Polish toddler found unconscious in sub-freezing temperatures hugged a teddy bear and called for his parents after only four days of treatment, his mother said Thursday, while his doctor described the boy's recovery as "a

miracle."

Adam, 2, spent an unknown number of hours outdoors in southern Poland. His body temperature was only 12.7 C, and his heart was beating extremely slowly when hospital treatment began early Sunday. He is recovering and breathing on his own.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dollarama. Discount store facing rising costs

Dollarama is facing rising costs, including higher minimum wages, new duties on imports and the inflationary impact of a lower Canadian dollar.

"We're hearing about even price increases on incoming inbound freight from the Orient," CEO Larry Rossy said Thursday during a conference call to discuss third-quarter results.

The Montreal-based retailer said labour costs are rising as five provinces have increased minimum wages by an average of 2.5 per cent and a lower loonie is driving the cost of imports that fill its store shelves higher.

Costs are also expected to rise when tariffs increase on many imported products from China and other countries starting in January.

Dollarama said it plans to offset the higher costs by improving its efficiency rather than cutting jobs.

"You have to appreciate that the dollar store business is a labour-intensive business," Rossy told analysts.

Despite the challenges, the discount retailer beat expectations as its profits surged on improved same-store sales. It earned \$73 million for the three months ended Nov. 2. That compared to \$61.7 million a year earlier.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lawsuit over toilet breaks

Work. Woman alleges pregnancy and gender discrimination after being told she was taking too many bathroom breaks

An Oregon woman is suing her former high-tech employer for more than \$400,000 US, contending she was fired while pregnant with her second child after being told she took too many restroom breaks.

The suit filed in circuit court says Dawn Steckmann and other employees were never told they needed to clock out before using the restroom at Maxim Integrated Products, The Oregonian reported. The company makes wafers for wireless devices at its plant in the Portland suburb of Beaverton.

Maxim lawyer Melissa Healy declined comment, citing the pending litigation.

The lawsuit alleges preg-

nancy and gender discrimination.

It says when Steckmann was pregnant with her first child in 2011, she asked a supervisor whether she should go off the clock because she was urinating more frequently, and was told that wasn't necessary.

During her second pregnancy in 2013, restroom visits were more frequent because of a bladder condition caused by her first pregnancy, and "she would not even have had time to clock out to use the restroom without an accident," the suit says.

In June 2013, Steckmann was called to a meeting with her supervisor and a human resources manager who asked why she was not clocking out for restroom breaks. Her supervisor claimed he had told Steckmann she needed to clock out. The human resources manager told Steckmann that for all he knew, she could be watching movies in the bathroom, according to the lawsuit.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Second Cup perks up store

Alix Box, president and CEO of Second Cup, sits at the "slow bar" at a redesigned Second Cup coffee outlet in Toronto on Thursday. Second Cup has unveiled a new-format store that includes a redesigned circular "slow bar" where patrons can plug in their personal electronics while they sit and watch servers work an array of high-end brewing machines. The new store in Toronto's theatre district is part of the specialty coffee chain's attempt to inject new life into a Canadian brand that has languished in recent years. Among other things, the new-look Second Cup café has a Steampunk coffee and tea brewing system that the company describes as "true theatre in motion."

CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Giant backlog

L.L. Bean duck boot too popular

Demand for L.L. Bean boots is surging — so much so that some customers will have to wait until February to get their holiday purchases.

A backlog of 60,000 orders of the rubber-bottomed, leather-topped "duck boot" could grow to 100,000 by month's end.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Diapers, baby wipes

Amazon launching line of baby gear

Amazon is launching its own line of diapers and baby wipes exclusively for its Prime members in the U.S. to get more shoppers to sign up for the \$99 US annual program.

The new line, Amazon Elements, will mean tougher competition for traditional consumer product companies, said a Bernstein Research analyst. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute



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87.91¢
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Natural gas: \$3.66 US (-\$0.15)
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VOICES

CLOSE THE ENVELOPE ON OPEN LETTERS, PLEASE


THE KOHLER REPORT
By Rebecca Kohler

I'd write an open letter to open letters if I could stomach writing an open letter. I find it difficult to read one without cringing at least once.

I can't quite put my finger on why, but I guess it's that they're publicly private in a way that makes me uncomfortable; like a drunk wife berating her husband for his lack of table manners in front of dinner guests (think *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*). It's not that I have a problem with people publicly voicing their opinions (clearly, I write a column that appears on a page of the paper called "Voices"), it's that I wonder why you would feel the need to make it personal.

We've seen a rash of open letters this year — Sinead O'Connor to Miley Cyrus, Jian Ghomeshi's TMI opus to the world — and this week that rash looked like it needed some ointment.

Last week we had that (really dumb) one from Republican Party communications director Elizabeth Lauten to the Obama girls. In it, Lauten admonished Sasha and Malia for not having enough "class" while attending the Turkey Pardoning. First of all, give those kids a break — I'm sure they'd rather be hanging out with friends than their dad and an undercooked piece of poultry. Second, Ms. Lauten, how "classy" is it for a GOP staffer to attack the First Children on her Facebook page? I guess it's classy enough to warrant your resignation.

We also saw an O.L. from model Arisze Wanzer to Kendall Jenner. The bitter tirade scolds Jenner for not having had to work as hard as other models to find success.

"Take a moment and remove yourself from your current situation ... to a life that isn't riddled with excess and only hearing the word 'yes'," Wanzer writes.

I get it, yes: People with golden horseshoes up their genetically superior rear ends are irritating, and I'm always in the mood

Leave them alone

Ms. Lauten, how "classy" is it for a GOP staffer to attack the First Children on her Facebook page?

for a good Kardashian bashing. But this isn't Kendall Jenner's fault, it's the modelling industry's. They're the ones that gave Jenner the work. Aside from this letter revealing that you're insecure and sour (let's face it, you're probably really hungry), you've also aimed your letter at the wrong target. Besides, Kendall is so rich, she probably can't even read.

On Wednesday, the *National Post* printed an open letter from Canadian musician Dave Bidini to Joni Mitchell. In it, he references a recent *Maclean's* article in which Mitchell said a lot of uncomplimentary things about her fans, and a few too many complimentary

things about herself. It's true, she sounded like a cow with a sore udder. Though I agreed with Bidini, I was still getting that uncomfortable open-letter feeling.

But then I thought, "Maybe this was the only appropriate format." How else would Bidini pitch that to the *National Post*? "I want to write an article about how Joni Mitchell is a piece of poo." So maybe sometimes open letters are necessary?

That said, I'm still firm on my original stance. I find open letters masturbatory — they're basically talking to themselves — condescending, and self-aggrandizing.

So, here's an open "note" to open letter writers: If you don't know someone well enough to have their mailing address, chances are, they don't know you well enough to care what you think.

Rebecca Kohler is a stand-up comic, writer, actor, gymnast, lawyer and chemist. (Some of this isn't true.) Follow her on Twitter at @becca_kohler

Happy face/Sad face

From reissued birth notices to whack decrees by dictators, Metro weighs in on the news that made headlines this week:


GIRL SCOUT COOKIES

Ever see adorable Girl Guides selling cookies and panic when you realize you don't have cash? If you live in the U.S., that panic's a thing of the past. The American equivalent, Girl Scout cookies, are going online for the first time ever. Sadly, Canadian guides aren't following suit, but that doesn't mean we can't be happy for our friends south of the border.


ABSURD EDICTS

In crazy dictator news, North Korea has made it illegal to go by Kim Jong-Un — the name of the country's young and eccentric leader. And in China, puns have been banned in an effort to stifle government dissent — or as the government would say, prevent "cultural and linguistic chaos."


GOOD SAMARITAN POLICE IN TENNESSEE

When a Salvation Army shelter in Tennessee turned away a family of five because it said their teen son was too old for the family wing and too young for the men's wing, they faced a frigid night in their car. That's when the local police stepped in. Officers pooled their cash and took them to a hotel for the night. When the hotel clerk insisted on comping the family their room, officers used the cash to buy the family groceries.



METRO PHOTO ILLUSTRATION


FAKE PREGNANCY HEIST

A couple is accused of using a fake pregnancy belly to hide items they stole from an electronics store north of Toronto. The alleged act was caught on camera. Shame for co-opting the miracle of life for greed. But points for creativity, we guess.


PARENTS OF TRANSGENDER TEEN

An Australian couple is getting high-fives from around the world after re-issuing a tear-jerking birth notice for their transgender teen: "In 1995 we announced the arrival of our sprogget, Elizabeth Anne, as a daughter. He informs us that we were mistaken. Oops! Our bad. We would now like to present, our wonderful son — Kai Bogert. Loving you is the easiest thing in the world. Tidy your room." *sniff*

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The Power to Surprise

Onscreen sizzle a real-life fizz

Casting. Despite strong sparks in their film pairings, Jennifer Lawrence and Bradley Cooper insist there is no romance off-screen, just like many popular movie couples

Bradley Cooper and Jennifer Lawrence first paired off in *Silver Linings Playbook* — he was a divorced substitute teacher, jailed for beating his wife's boyfriend half to death; she was a troubled widow who needed his help to win a dance competition — and sparks flew.

Next they shared scenes, but no romance, in *American Hustle*. And, this weekend, they make it a trifecta with the release of *Serena*.

Based on the novel by Ron Rash, Cooper and Lawrence play husband and wife lumber barons whose marriage becomes strained after she suffers a miscarriage.

Despite having shared love scenes in movies, Cooper says they have kept the romance onscreen.

"I mean, first of all, I could be her father," he says.

The re-teaming of Cooper and Lawrence in *Serena* proves that lightning does not always strike thrice.

The "it" couple had chemistry to burn in their previous pairings but fail to set off sparks here. As George and Serena they are ruthless and selfish, which should be the stuff of interesting characters, but the story throws so many hurdles their way that eventually it becomes one big, boring blur.

Some onscreen couples, however, have managed to



Jennifer Lawrence and Bradley Cooper play married lumber barons in *Serena*. CONTRIBUTED

In Review

RICHARD CROUSE



Serena

Director. Susanne Bier

Stars. Jennifer Lawrence, Bradley Cooper

★★★★

Jennifer Lawrence plays the title character, the ambitious wife of George Pemberton (Bradley Cooper), a lumber baron struggling to keep his business afloat in Depression-era North Carolina. A miscarriage drives a wedge between them, a rift exacerbated by the arrival

of a son George fathered by another woman. *Serena* has all the makings of an epic story. Betrayal, jealousy, murder and money swirl around the central characters, but instead of combining to create a compelling narrative, the elements collide in a big bang of schlock. From the broad southern accents to the dirt-smeared Rhys Ifans as *Serena's* violent lap dog, everything about this movie seems to verge on caricature.

keep the flame alive through several films.

After a 16-year separation, Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan — the pre-eminent cinema sweethearts of the 1990s — will reunite in the World War II drama *Ithaca*.

The three rom coms that made them superstars, *Joe Versus the Volcano*, *Sleepless in Seattle* and *You've Got Mail*, were fuelled by the platonic chemistry they share in real life.

"He makes me feel less alone," says Ryan.

Kate Winslet and co-star Leonardo DiCaprio are so close in real life that her children refer to him as Uncle Leo.

As *Titanic's* star-crossed lovers Jack and Rose, they defined romantic tragedy for a whole generation before recoupling 11 years later in the feel-bad love story *Revolutionary Road*.

Despite what fans thought, their friendship never turned romantic off-screen. "He always saw me as one of the boys," said Kate.

Despite falling in love over and over again in movies like *The Wedding Singer*, *50 First Dates* and *Blended*, Drew Barrymore says she and Adam Sandler have exchanged nothing more than a "church kiss."

"That's probably why we've been able to stick together all these years," she says, "because there never was that awkward moment."

The lesson learned is that chemistry off-screen often leads to good results on the screen, but not always. Tony Curtis and Marilyn Monroe fogged up the lens in *Some Like It Hot*, but reportedly did not like one another.

"It was like kissing Hitler," said Curtis.

2 SCENE



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Gabrielle Miller and Brent Butt star in *Corner Gas: The Movie*. CONTRIBUTED

Gang has five days to rescue Dog River

Corner Gas: The Movie. Big-screen adaptation of popular sitcom will only play in theatres for a week before moving to TV and a DVD release

RICHARD CROUSE
Metro in Hollywood

Six years after *Corner Gas* called it quits on the small screen, the citizens of Dog River are back and bigger than ever.

Corner Gas: The Movie will play in theatres for five days before moving to television and then a DVD release, all in time for Christmas.

"It's all very fast," says star Brent Butt. "I don't think it has ever been done before."

The pace of the film's release schedule may be accelerated, but Butt and company took their time bringing the show from television to the big screen.

"When we wrapped the series up, the notion was, 'It would be great if we could come back one more time

to do a movie,'" he says. "We didn't know if we could come up with a script that would justify doing the movie. It's weird. If you are trying to convert a known 22-minute project that has a known rhythm and characters, and try and make that live over 90 minutes, it's a trick. You can't do that easily. You can do it poorly easily, but to do it well is tough."

The film sees the good folks of Dog River attempting to save the town from bankruptcy by winning the Quaintest Town in Canada contest.

"One of my first thoughts was, 'Will it just be like a really long episode?'" said series star Fred Ewanick, who plays Hank. "Because that would suck."

"When I first got the script, right away, I thought, 'It's a feature script. That's good.' It's still *Corner Gas*, we're not going to knock anybody's socks off, and it is not this whole new thing, but it works as a film."

"I agree with that," chimes in Gabrielle Miller, who plays Lacey on the show. "Except we are going to knock your socks off."

The film comes almost six years after the 107th and

Quoted

"We didn't know if we could come up with a script that would justify doing the movie. It's weird."

Brent Butt, *Corner Gas* star

final episode of the popular sitcom aired.

"It felt like we had just been on a really long hiatus," said series regular Tara Spencer-Nairn, who plays Karen.

"We were all just a little bit older. All the men had to get their hair coloured. On the first day, all the girls were in hair and makeup tests and the boys all went to get their hair coloured."

The cast fell right back into their roles, despite the long break, but Butt said this may be the last time they are all in Dog River together.

"I'm a never-say-never kind of guy, but the plan isn't to do another one."

Fans shouldn't give up hope, though. When co-star Fred Ewanick suggests another related project, Butt's eyes brighten.

"*Corner Gascapades*? I could work with that."

Now in theatres

Ratings and synopses courtesy of Rotten Tomatoes. For more movie reviews, trailers and news go to RottenTomatoes.com.

Ratings: Certified Fresh: 🍅 Fresh: 🍅 Rotten: 🍌 Audience response: 🍌 Audience anticipation for the film: +

Comedy



Corner Gas: The Movie

Director. David Storey

Stars. Brent Butt, Gabrielle Miller

As the town of Dog River goes bankrupt, the residents of the town must pack up and move out. However, our favourite citizens make one last-ditch effort to save Dog River.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: Audience:
No reviews yet +100%

Documentary



Citizenfour

Director. Laura Poitras

Stars. Edward Snowden

In January 2013, Poitras was several years into making a film about surveillance in the post-9/11 era when she started receiving encrypted e-mails from someone identifying himself as "citizen four," who was ready to blow the whistle on the massive covert surveillance programs run by the NSA and other intelligence agencies. The man turned out to be Edward Snowden.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: Audience:
96% 92%

Drama



The Theory of Everything

Director. James Marsh

Stars. Eddie Redmayne, Felicity Jones

Starring Eddie Redmayne (Les Misérables) and Felicity Jones (The Amazing Spider-Man 2), this is the extraordinary story of one of the world's greatest living minds, the renowned astrophysicist Stephen Hawking, who falls deeply in love with fellow Cambridge student Jane Wilde.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: Audience:
81% 83%

Drama



Rosewater

Director. Jon Stewart

Stars. Gael García Bernal, Kim Bodnia

Rosewater is based on The New York Times best-selling memoir Then They Came for Me: A Family's Story of Love, Captivity, and Survival, written by Maziar Bahari. The film marks the directorial debut of The Daily Show host Jon Stewart, and stars Gael García Bernal. Rosewater follows the Tehran-born Bahari, a broadcast journalist with Canadian citizenship.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: Audience:
73% +91%

Comedy



Horrible Bosses 2

Director. Sean Anders

Stars. Jason Bateman, Jason Sudeikis, Charlie Day

The followup to the 2011 hit comedy Horrible Bosses reunites Jason Bateman, Charlie Day and Jason Sudeikis as everyone's favourite working stiffs: Nick, Dale and Kurt. Jennifer Aniston, and Oscar winners Jamie Foxx (Ray) and Kevin Spacey (American Beauty, The Usual Suspects) also reprise their Horrible Bosses starring roles.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: Audience:
35% 65%

Sci-Fi/Adventure



Interstellar

Director. Christopher Nolan

Stars. Matthew McConaughey, Anne Hathaway, Jessica Chastain

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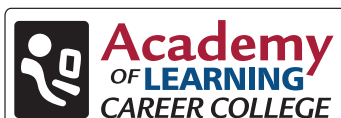
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Critics: Audience:
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The Oscar race this year is already something of a head-scratcher, and right at the centre of it is a surprisingly light field of best actress contenders. Despite a clear front-runner — Julianne Moore for her devastating performance in *Still Alice* — the category is looking a bit thin. Here's a look at the contenders:

NED EHRBAR

Metro World News in Hollywood

A look at a light year of best actresses



The shoo-in

Julianne Moore, *Still Alice*

Seriously, Moore's toughest acting job now is continuing to be surprised each time she nabbs a trophy between now and February 22. She's basically this year's McConaughey.



The sure-thing nominations

Rosamund Pike, *Gone Girl*

People might have come for a glimpse at Ben Affleck's junk, but they stayed for Pike's surprising, chilly performance.



Reese Witherspoon, *Wild*

Previous winner Witherspoon turns in a solidly harrowing performance in *Wild*, but it falls just short of the mark.

Felicity Jones, *The Theory of Everything*

It took some time for critics to see past the brilliance of her co-star — and another shoo-in nominee — Eddie Redmayne, but Jones should be recognized as well for her stellar work as Stephen Hawking's first wife, Jane.

The strong possibilities

Hillary Swank, *The Homesman*

Two-time Oscar winner Swank has been looking for that comeback vehicle to bring her a third trophy for a while, and this one came close, but maybe voters just weren't in the mood for a gritty frontier drama this year.

Jennifer Aniston, *Cake*

While some have dismissed Aniston's turn in this indie as little more than makeup-free stunt-casting, she shows some impressive dramatic chops — which anyone who's seen *The Good Girl* or *Friends with Money* already knew.



Might we also recommend

Scarlett Johansson, *Under the Skin*

If the Academy wanted to play things a little riskier, it could recognize the *Avengers* star's transformative — and nearly silent — work in Jonathan Glazer's hypnotic and eerie science-fiction thriller.

Emily Blunt, *Into the Woods*

It might be tough to single out anyone in this sprawling ensemble as a "lead," but Blunt comes closest as the Baker's Wife. And she's a standout in that big cast, holding her own against Meryl Streep, even.

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Director's debut an ode to Copenhagen

Interview. Toronto's Mark Raso travelled across the ocean to set his tale of wanderlust

STEVE GOW

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As a young filmmaker, it's an arduous endeavour just to make a low-budget movie. But it's a whole other challenge to shoot it in a foreign country.

"We just met fantastic people who were willing to go on this adventure with us," said director Mark Raso about his acclaimed debut feature *Copenhagen*.

"It wasn't difficult at all — people were welcoming, the city opened itself up to us, the tourism board got involved with the film and we just had a lot of love from the city."

A hit among critics, *Copenhagen* (which premieres in Toronto/available on VOD elsewhere this Friday) follows an obnoxious

Quoted

"We shot in the town square on a Thursday night and we were stopping for drunk people every 30 seconds as they were mooning the camera."

Director Mark Raso on shooting his film in Copenhagen

college-age tourist (played by HBO's *Game of Thrones* star Gethin Anthony) who wanders Denmark's titular capital looking to uncover his long lost grandfather. Instead, the irascible Canadian traveller meets a tempting, beautiful stranger that's wise beyond her teenage years.

"The interesting thing with our main guy is that in our first draft, he was this nice, lovable guy and the story didn't work," explained the Toronto-born auteur.

"I kept on pushing him and making him meaner and nastier to a point where I think some people just want to turn



Gethin Anthony stars in *Copenhagen*, which opens in Toronto this weekend and VOD. CONTRIBUTED

the movie off after the first 10 minutes. But it seemed to work for the overall story."

Following in the footsteps of Richard Linklater's *Before Sunrise* trilogy or Sarah Polley's Toronto-centric *Take*

This *Waltz*, *Copenhagen* is as much a love letter to the film's European setting as it is a romantic relationship drama. "I really love the youthful energy of the city," said Raso, before noting that *Copenhagen*'s "youthful energy" also led to a couple of dodgy days on set.

"We shot in the town square on a Thursday night and we were stopping for drunk people every 30 seconds as they were mooning the camera," laughed Raso. "But we just waited them out and finished up in the morning."

Behind the scenes

- His 2011 short film *Under* may have won a prestigious Student Academy Award, but Raso didn't feel under pressure with his debut feature. "Under was such a complicated film that (*Copenhagen*) was a little bit easier in a way," said Raso. "I found around Day 9 or 10 on *Copenhagen*, I really got into a groove and things became easier and easier."
- Raso on casting *Game of Thrones*'s Gethin Anthony. "I'm a huge fan of *Game of Thrones*, so I'd seen all his work," said Raso. "If anything, I wasn't sure he'd be able to do it coming in because it just felt like a complete offshoot but he ended up doing a great job."

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Canadian Investors Buying American Dream



5 Reasons Canadians should invest in the US Right Now

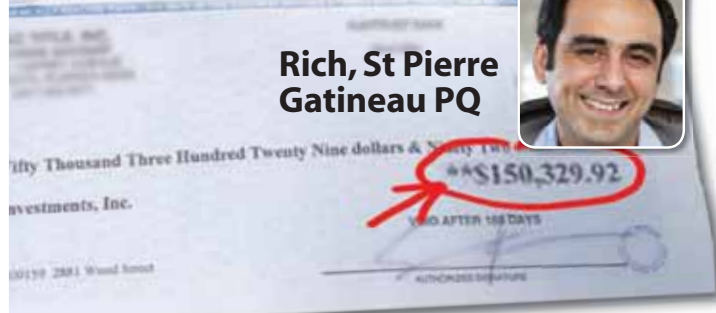
- 1 Interest rates are still low—for now, especially on hard money and bridge money used for investors to buy Real Estate without credit and little to no money of their own. This has been a big change from less than 5 years ago when this type of money all but dried up.
- 2 There's more Inventory than ever before. It's a buyers' market. People in the US are almost giving houses away to avoid foreclosure and rising upkeep costs, and because of American industry downsizing.
"Inventories are at their highest level in over a year, and price gains have slowed to much more welcoming levels," said Lawrence Yun, Chief Economist at the National Association of REALTORS®.
- 3 Home Prices Are Going Up. With this influx of money demand is increasing DAILY!
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- 4 Rents are sky-high, nationwide – rising at a 4% annual rate.
- 5 Employment is on the rise, which means that more Americans will be able to invest in US properties again soon. NOW IS THE TIME TO GET AHEAD!



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Michael Murphy plays a priest coping with moral chaos in *Fall*. CONTRIBUTED

Michael Murphy puts order to ambiguity

Interview. Canadian filmmaker Terrance Odetta says veteran actor brought shape to moral tale that delves deep into faith

STEVE GOW
scene@metronews.ca

In the forthcoming film *Fall*, actor Michael Murphy plays a kindly priest whose life descends into moral chaos after he receives a cryptic letter from a one-time teenage parishioner — a tragic tale that director Terrance Odetta admits is somewhat based on a true story.

“(An) incident happened to me when I was 14 and the letter is something that I never did write but it’s something I felt I would’ve,” said Odetta ahead of the film’s Toronto release this weekend (available on VOD the same day). “That’s the inspiration for starting the story, but I wasn’t interested in any kind of autobiographical story. I was using the incident and reflecting on this man.”

In fact, Odetta admits he didn’t even truly discover the

More on Fall

- **Murphy on his initial hesitation.** “I had mixed feelings about it. First of all, I’m old and cynical now,” said Murphy. “(And) I thought, do I really want to do a picture that is ostensibly about child molestation?”
- **Murphy on *Fall*’s place in cinema.** “To me, (*Fall*) is a flashback to the art films we used to watch when I was at college,” said
- **76-year-old Murphy.** “Not that this is hard to understand — but it’s ambiguous as hell.”
- **Odetta on moviegoers’ reactions.** “People all immediately start talking about the character,” said Odetta. “I’m always impressed by people’s immediate recognition of Michael and his performance, so to me, the character came alive.”

drama’s ambiguous narrative until Murphy came on-board. A long-time admirer of the character actor’s 50-year career appearing in everything from Woody Allen’s classic *Manhattan* to recent thriller *White House Down* starring Channing Tatum, Odetta insists the film only found shape with the reluctant collaborator.

“Truthfully, I liked what he wrote, but I thought they’ll never make this movie,” explained Murphy. “I thought this is good, but I’ve spent my career doing movies about guys who are challenged morally, (but Odetta) brought a great gift of a starring role in the kind of picture I want to make because

it’s cinematic acting.”

It’s also not the first movie Odetta has written with deep questions surrounding faith. In 2002, Odetta earned attention for *Saint Monica* — a modest festival hit about a young girl obsessed with angels and her Roman Catholic upbringing.

“I’m just harvesting from my own experience and what interests me,” explained the Hamilton, Ont.-based filmmaker of his interest in religion. “It’s part of me. I’m a person who is fascinated by philosophy; fascinated by why and how people think spiritually. It’s simply where I mine from.”

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Captain Martin Crieff, Cabin Pressure

As a young pilot with more passion than skill for flying, Cumberbatch is the earnest straight man of the BBC radio comedy Cabin Pressure, which will arrive at the end of its alphabetical journey with a Christmas special this month. Cumberbatch plays the overeager, rule-happy heart of a small private charter firm of one jet and a supporting cast who love him almost as much as they love to make fun of him.



David, Wreckers

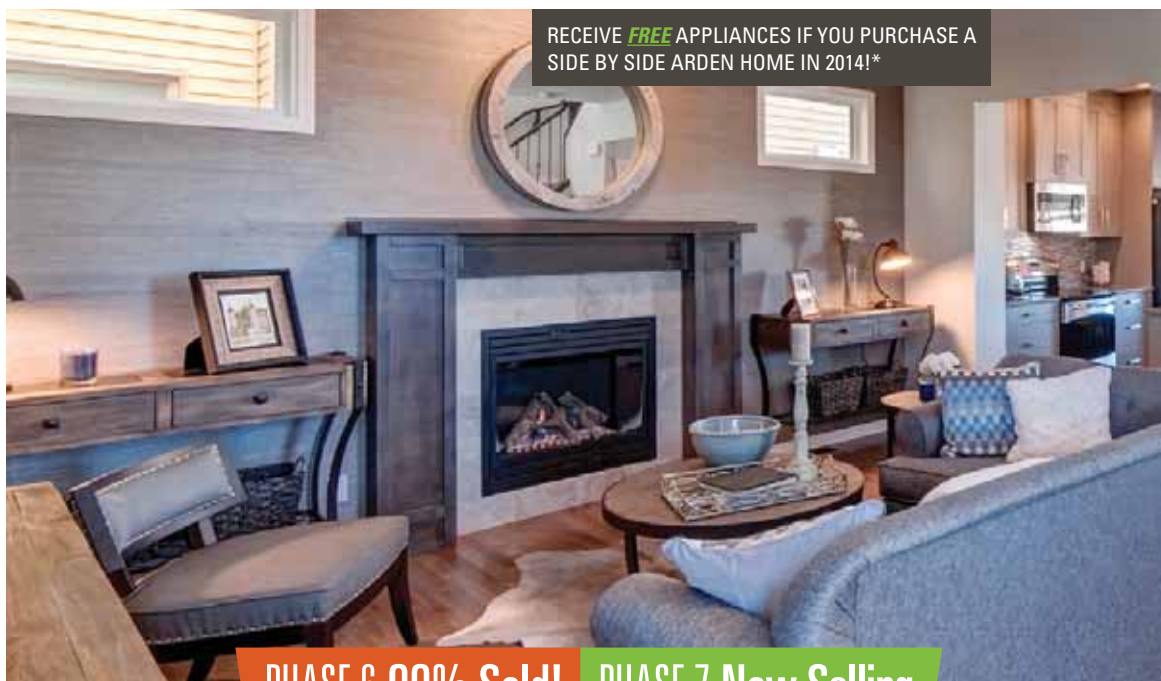
Trees are never the only thing that's shady in the English countryside. The idea that those who go to the city are escaping something is alive and well in Wreckers, where a young couple return to David's childhood home to start building a life together. But as soon as they arrive, Cumberbatch becomes less devoted husband and more a product of the abuse and incest that permeate the town — and his relationship with his brother.



5

times Benedict Cumberbatch did not play an arrogant, but flawed genius

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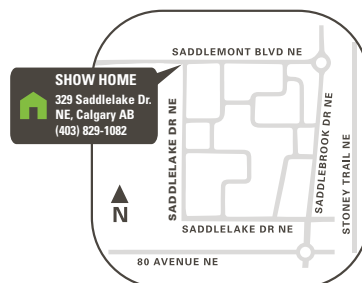
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The Creature, Frankenstein

Over the course of Danny Boyle's stage adaptation of Frankenstein, Cumberbatch's Creature struggles with being made of human parts but knowing little of what it means to be one. The Creature rejoices and struggles with, in equal measure, himself, the world and his creator, veering between love and fear, leading him to the most human act of all: revenge.



Christopher Tietjens, Parade's End

Cumberbatch has described his character in this First World War drama as the one he's most attached to. Christopher Tietjens is a simple man who values

tradition and lives life by the rules, in his duty as a soldier and as a husband to a manipulative Rebecca Hall (The Prestige). It's a philosophy that makes his encounter with a suffragette and all that a new life with her would entail fraught with anticipation. This one made more than a few stiff upper lips quiver, and earned Cumberbatch an Emmy nod.



Khan, Star Trek Into Darkness

Although Star Trek Into Darkness began as a seemingly straight-up story of a space-age terrorist out to do as much damage to Starfleet as he can, Cumberbatch's villain Khan turned out to have a much more personal agenda when it was revealed that he was merely trying to free his crew, who had been imprisoned by a Starfleet officer. Cumberbatch goes from fury to tears as Khan is revealed to have been manipulated into killing in the name of keeping the peace.



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Benedict Cumberbatch plays Second World War scientist Alan Turing in *The Imitation Game*. CONTRIBUTED

War hero saved millions, but few know his name

The Imitation Game.

Alan Turing invented a computer that cracked Nazi codes and helped Allies win the war, but he was arrested and castrated for being gay

**ANNE
BRODIE**
scene@metronews.ca

Mathematician, statistician and early computer scientist Alan Turing was a British war hero, but no one knew until years later because no one was supposed to know.

Under the cloak of secrecy at Bletchley Hall, the U.K.'s cypher and spy school, he invented the electromagnetic machine. It was an early computer that broke the German Enigma code and intercepted military messages, assuring an Allied victory.

When Turing's work was finally revealed, Sir Winston Churchill called it "the greatest single contribution to the Allied victory over the Nazis."

Turing may have saved millions of lives and shortened the war by two to four years, but he was arrested for being gay, a crime in the U.K.

until 1967, and was forced into chemical castration. It led to his early death in 1952.

Benedict Cumberbatch plays the tragic hero in Morten Tyldum's *The Imitation Game*, with Matthew Goode and Allen Leech as his Bletchley Park colleagues. They hope to bring Turing's heroism to a new generation.

"There are huge amounts of people that don't know about him," says Cumberbatch. "And (they are) even more important than those who do — people who appreciate what he achieved and stood for, both as a gay icon and as a genius who basically was at the forefront of the birth of the computer age and a war hero."

"The number of people who don't know about him, or only have a scant idea of him, is in extraordinary proportion to his achievements and what he endured in his life. So my kind of weight and responsibility tends towards wanting this to get to as broad an audience as possible."

Turing is portrayed as being a loner and difficult to work with, perhaps for fear of being outed. Goode and Leech found that their real life counterparts, Hugh Alexander and John Cairncross,

Secret quest

There was plenty the cast wasn't privy to when researching *The Imitation Game*. "Bletchley Park was shrouded in secrecy and the characters we played were the most secretive of all," explains Allen Leech. "So a lot of the information would have been destroyed and, even when we did approach people who had worked there, they still, 70 years on, weren't prepared to speak about it."

were wary of him.

"He's not the easiest man to like, which is something I liked about Benedict's acting choices," says Goode.

Cumberbatch, Goode and Leech agree Turing was dealt an unfair hand but feel the film is a celebration of his life and work.

"Not just the Enigma Code, but about this man and the team around him — this incredible man who has never been given the proper accolades he deserves," says Leech.

"It's a celebration of why different is good, why different can win a World War," Goode adds.

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APR FOR 2844 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 2856 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 2868 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 2880 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 2892 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 2904 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 2916 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 2928 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 2940 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 2952 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 2964 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 2976 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 2988 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3000 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3012 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3024 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3036 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3048 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3060 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3072 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3084 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3096 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3108 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3120 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3132 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3144 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3156 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3168 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3180 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3192 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3204 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3216 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3228 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3240 MONTHS, 4.9% APR FOR 3

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\$18,768

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SN846206

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\$25,268

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THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., DEC. 5 TO THURS., DEC. 11 TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Canyon Meadows
Bay 110 13226 Macleod Trail
The Best of Me (PG) Fri-Thu 7:20-9:50
The Book of Life (G) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:20-6:45
The Boxtrolls (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-3:50-7:10
Dolphin Tale 2 (G) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:45
Dracula Untold (14A) Fri-Thu 9:55
The Equalizer (14A) Fri-Thu 1-4-6:55-9:40
Guardians of the Galaxy (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:10-7:05-9:50 How to Train Your Dragon 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:15
The Hundred-Foot Journey (PG) Fri-Thu 1-3:55-7-9:40
The Judge (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:45-6:50-9:25
The Maze Runner (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:40-7:05-9:45
Meet the Mormons (STC) Fri-Sat 1-3:25-5:45-7:45-9:45 Sun 3:25-5:45-7:45-9:45 Mon-Thu 1-3:25-5:45-7:45-9:45
Ouija (14A) Fri-Thu 7:25-9:30
This Is Where I Leave You (14A) Fri-Thu 9:35

Crowfoot Crossing
91 Crowfoot Terrace
Big Hero 6 (G) Fri 1:30-4:10 Sat 11-1:30-4:10 Sun-Tue 1:30-4:10 Wed 4:10 Thu 1:30-4:10
Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1:30
Big Hero 6 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1-3:40-6:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 3:40-6:30-9:30
Bolshoi Ballet: La Bayadere (STC) Sun 12:55
A Christmas Story (STC) Sat 11
Dumb and Dumber To (PG) Fri 1:45-4:25-7:05-9:55 Sat 11:10-1:45-4:25-7:05-9:55 Sun-Thu 1:45-4:25-7:05-9:55
Exhibition on Screen: Matisse (STC) Thu 7:30
Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D (PG) Thu 9:30
Fury (14A) Fri-Wed 9:50
Gone Girl (18A) Fri-Thu 1:40-5-8:15
Horrible Bosses 2 (14A) Fri-Thu 2:05-4:45-7:25-10:05
The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1 (PG) Fri 12:45-1:15-3:15-3:45-4:15-6:15-6:45-7:15-9:15-9:45-10:15 Sat 12-12:45-1:15-3:15-3:45-4:15-6:15-6:45-7:15-9:15-9:45-10:15 Sun 12:45-1:15-3:15-3:45-4:15-6:15-6:45-7:15-9:15-9:45-10:15 Mon-Thu 1:35-2-2:25-4:30-4:50-5:15-7:20-7:40-8:10-10:10-10:25
Interstellar (PG) Fri 2:30-6:05-9:40 Sat 11-2:30-6:05-9:40 Sun-Tue 2:30-6:05-9:40 Wed 6:05-9:40 Thu 2:30-6:05-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1:30
National Theatre Live: John (STC) Wed 7
Penguins of Madagascar (G) Fri-Thu 1:55-4:20-7 Penguins of Madagascar 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:30-2:55-5:20-7:45-10:05 Mon-Thu 2:35-5-7:25-9:45
St. Vincent (PG) Fri-Thu 7:10-9:40
Women Who Flirt (PG) Fri-Sat 12:40-3-5:20-7:50-10:20 Sun 5:20-7:50-10:20 Mon-Tue 3-5:20-7:50-10:20 Wed 3-10:20 Thu 3-5:20-10:20

Eau Claire Market, 200 Barlay Parade



Horrible Bosses 2. CONTRIBUTED

Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance) (14A) Fri 6:50-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:30-6:50-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:20-8:10
Citizenfour (PG) Fri 6:30-9:20 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:50-6:30-9:20 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:40
Horrible Bosses 2 (14A) Fri 7:10-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:10-7:10-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:20
The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1 (PG) Fri 7-10 Sat-Sun 1-4-7-10 Mon-Thu 6-8:50
Interstellar (PG) Fri 8:10 Sat-Sun 12:20-4:20-8:10 Mon-Thu 8
The Theory of Everything (G) Fri 6:40-9:30
Sat-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:30 Mon-Thu 5:30-8:30

Landmark Cinemas 16
Country Hills, 388 Country Hills Blvd
Action Jackson (STC) Fri-Sun 12:15-4:40-8:30 Mon-Thu 4:40-8:30
Big Hero 6 (G) Fri 12:40-3:20 Sat 10:20-3:30 Sun-Wed 3:30 Thu 3:20 Sun 10:20
Big Hero 6 3D (G) Fri 1:20-4:20-7:10-10 Sat-Sun 10:35-1:20-4:20-7:10-10 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:10-10
Chaar Sahibzaade 3D (PG) Fri 1:10-4:05-7-9:55 Sat-Sun 10:10-1:10-4:05-7-9:55 Mon-Thu 4:05-7-9:55
Corner Gas: The Movie (PG) Fri 7 Sat-Sun 1-7
Dumb and Dumber To (PG) Fri-Sun 1:55-4:45-7:30-10:15 Mon-Wed 4:45-7:30-10:15

Thu 3:45-6:30
Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D (PG) Thu 8
Horrible Bosses 2 (14A) Fri 1:30-4:33-9:45 Sat 1:30-4:30-7:15 Sun 1:30-4:30-7:15-9:45-9:55 Mon-Wed 4:30-7-7:15-9:45-9:55 Thu 4:30-7:15-9:55 Fri 7:15-9:55 Sat 9:45-9:55
The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1 (PG) Fri 12-1-1:30-2-3-4-5-5:30-6-7-8:30-9:30-10 Sat 10-1:30-5-5:30-8:30-9:30 Sun 1-1:30-2-3-4-5-5:30-6-7-8:30-9-9:30-10 Mon 3-4-5-5:30-7-8:30-9-9:30-10 Tue 3-4-5-5:30-6-7-8:30-9-9:30-10 Wed 12:45-4-7-10 Thu 5-5:30-6:50-8:30-9-9:30-9:50 Fri 9 Sat 1-2-3-4-6-7-9-10 Wed 3-5-5:30-8:30-9-9:30 Thu 3-4-Interstellar (PG) Fri-Sun 12:45-4:40-8:20 Mon-Thu 4:40-8:20
Interstellar: The IMAX Experience (PG) Fri-Sun 12:20-4:10-8:30 Mon-Thu 4:10-8:30
Penguins of Madagascar (G) Fri 12:50-3:35-6:30-9:15 Sat 10:30-12:50-6:30-9:15 Sun 10:30 Mon-Thu 3:35-6:30-9:15 Sat 3:35 Sun 12:50-3:35-6:30-9:15
Penguins of Madagascar 3D (G) Fri 1:30-4:45-7:20-10 Sat-Sun 10:15-1:30-4:45-7:20-10 Mon-Thu 4:45-7:20-10
The Royal Ballet - Manon (STC) Sat 11
Royal Opera House: I Due Foscari (STC) Mon 6:30 Wed-Thu 6:30
Serena (14A) Fri 6:35-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:20-3:30-6:35 Mon 6:35 Tue 3:30-6:35-9:30 Wed 3:30-9:30 Thu 3:30-6:35-9:30 Fri 12:20-3:30 Sat-Sun 9:30 Mon 3:30-9:30 Wed 6:35

The Theory of Everything (G) Fri 12:40-3:45-6:40-9:40 Sat 6:40 Sun 12:40-3:45-6:40-9:40 Mon-Thu 3:45-6:40-9:40 Sat 12:40-3:45-9:40 Top Five (18A) Thu 9

Landmark Cinemas 10
Shawnessy & EXTRA Calgary-tudio, 100-16061 Macleod Trail
Big Hero 6 (G) Fri 4-6:45 Sat-Sun 10:30-4-6:45 Mon-Thu 4-6:45
Big Hero 6 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:15-9:30
Dumb and Dumber To (PG) Fri-Sun 12:10-3-7:20-10:15 Mon 12:10-3-10:15 Tue-Thu 12:10-3-7:20-10:15
Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D (PG) Thu 8
Horrible Bosses 2 (14A) Fri-Wed 1:45-4:45-7:45-10-10:30 Thu 1:45-4:45-7:45-10:30
The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1 (PG) Fri 12:30-3:10-3:45-6:30-7-9:45-10:15 Sat-Wed 12-12:30-3:10-3:45-6:30-7-9:45-10:15 Thu 12-12:30-3:10-3:45-6:30-7-9:15-9:45-10:15 Fri-Wed 1-4-15-7:30-10:30 Thu 1-4-15
Interstellar (PG) Fri 12-4-8 Sat 4-8 Sun-Thu 12-4-8
Penguins of Madagascar (G) Fri 12:45-3:30-6:10 Sat-Sun 10:15-12:45-3:30-6:10 Mon-Thu 12:45-3:30-6:10 Wed 12:45-3:30 Thu 12:45-3:30-6:10
Penguins of Madagascar 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:10-9:50
The Royal Ballet - Manon (STC) Sat 11

Royal Opera House: I Due Foscari (STC) Mon 6:30 The Theory of Everything (G) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:20-6:20-9:40

Globe Cinema, 617-8 Avenue
Bird People (STC) Fri 7-9:20 Sat 3:20-7-9:20 Sun 1-3-20-7-9:20 Mon-Thu 7-9:20
Elf (G) Sat 12
An Honest Liar (STC) Fri 7:10-9 Sat-Sun 1:10-3-7:10-9 Mon-Thu 7:10-9
If You Love Your Children (STC) Sat 5:30

Scotiabank Chinook 6455 Macleod Trail
Big Hero 6 (G) Fri-Sat 11:05-1:45-4:25-7 Sun 11:05-1:45-4:30-7 Mon-Thu 12:15-3:15-7:35
Big Hero 6 3D (G) Fri-Sun 11:50-2:30-5:10-7:45-10:30 Mon-Thu 1:35-4:15-7-9:45
Bolshoi Ballet: La Bayadere (STC) Sun 12:55
A Christmas Story (STC) Sat 11
Corner Gas: The Movie (PG) Fri 7 Sat-Sun 1-7
Dumb and Dumber To (PG) Fri-Thu 12-2:40-5:20-8-10:40
Exhibition on Screen: Matisse (STC) Thu 7:30
Fury (14A) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:55-7:20-10:25 Mon-Thu 1-4:05-7:15-10:20
Gone Girl (18A) Fri 12:15-3:35-6:55-10:15 Sat 3:35-6:55-10:15 Sun 6:55-10:15 Mon-Thu 1-4:30-8
Horrible Bosses 2 (14A) Fri-Sun 12:10-1:50-2:50-4:30-5:30-7:10-8:10-9:50-10:50 Mon-Thu 1:50-2:20-4:30-5-7:10-7:45-9:50-10:25
The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1 (PG) Fri-Sun 12:20-12:50-3:20-3:50-6:20-6:50-9:20-9:50 Mon-Thu 12:20-2:30-3:20-5:30-6:20-8:30-9:20 Fri-Sun 11-1:50-4:50-7:50-10:45 Mon-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Fri-Sun 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:20 Mon-Tue 12:50-3:50-6:50-9:50 Wed 12:50-3:50-9:50 Thu 12:50-3:50-6:50-9:50
Interstellar (PG) Fri-Sun 11:45-3:25-7:05-10:45 Mon-Thu 12:15-4:10-7:50
Interstellar: The IMAX Experience (PG) Fri-Sun 11:15-3-6:40-10:20 Mon-Thu 1:45-5:20-9
John Wick (14A) Fri 12:25-3-10:10 Sat-Sun 4-10:10 Mon-Tue 12:30-3-7:20-10:10 Wed-Thu 12:30-3-10:10
The Metropolitan Opera: Le Nozze Di Figaro - Encore (STC) Sat 9:55
National Theatre Live: John (STC) Wed 7
Nightcrawler (14A) Fri-Sun 9:40 Mon-Thu 10:15
Penguins of Madagascar (G) Fri-Wed 12-2:25-4:50-7:15 Thu 4:50-7:15 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Penguins of Madagascar 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:45-3-10-5:35-8-10:25 Mon-Thu 1:25-4-6:40-9:30
Serena (14A) Fri-Wed 2-4:40-7:25-10:05 Thu 4:40-7:25-10:05 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
St. Vincent (PG) Fri-Thu 9:40

Plaza Theatre

1133 Kensington Rd. N.W.
Nightcrawler (14A) Fri-Sat 9:30 Sun-Mon 9 Tue 9:15 No Films Showing Today (STC) Wed-Thu Whiplash (14A) Fri-Sat 7:15 Mon 7

Sunridge Spectrum 2555 32nd Street
Action Jackson (STC) Fri-Sat 12:55-4:25-7:45 Sun-Thu 1:55-6:15-9:40
Big Hero 6 (G) Fri 1:10 Sat 11-1:10 Sun-Thu 1:10 Big Hero 6 3D (G) Fri-Thu 4:10-6:55-9:45 Chaar Sahibzaade 3D (PG) Fri-Sat 12:40-3:40-6:45-9:55 Sun-Thu 3:40-6:45-9:55
A Christmas Story (STC) Sat 11
Dumb and Dumber To (PG) Fri-Thu 1:35-4:15-7:35-10:15
Exodus: Gods and Kings (PG) Thu 8:40
Horrible Bosses 2 (14A) Fri-Sat 1:20-1:45-4:05-4:35-6:50-7:20-9:35-10:10 Sun-Thu 1:45-3:10-4:35-6:50-7:20-9:35-10:10
The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1 (PG) Fri-Sat 12:30-1:50-3:30-5-6:30-8:15-9:30 Sun-Thu 2-3-4:55-6:30-8-9:30 Fri-Thu 1-4-7-10 Interstellar (PG) Fri-Sat 1:40-6-9:40 Sun-Thu 1:20-5-8:45
Past Tense (STC) Fri-Sat 1:15-4:45-8:15 Sun-Thu 2:15-6:20-9:20
Penguins of Madagascar (G) Fri-Sat 12:45-3:20-6:10-8:35 Sun-Tue 1:05-6:10-8:35 Wed 6:10-8:35 Thu 1:05-6:10 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Penguins of Madagascar 3D (G) Fri-Sat 12:15-2:35-5-7:25-9:50 Sun-Thu 2:10-4:30-7:25-9:50
Serena (14A) Fri-Tue 1:30-4:20-7:10-10:05 Wed 4:20-7:10-10:05 Thu 1:30-4:20-7:10-10:05 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1:30

Westhills 10 165 Stewart Green
Big Hero 6 (G) Fri-Sun 12:45 Mon-Thu 3:55
Big Hero 6 3D (G) Fri-Sun 3:30-6:45-10:15 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:10
Corner Gas: The Movie (PG) Fri-Sun 1-7
Dumb and Dumber To (PG) Fri-Sun 1:15-4:15-7:05-10 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:25
Gone Girl (18A) Fri-Sun 9:30
Horrible Bosses 2 (14A) Fri-Sun 1:05-4:20-7:20-10:20 Mon-Thu 4:05-6:40-9:20
The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1 (PG) Fri 12:35-1:30-3:35-4:10-4:30-6:40-7:30-9:40-10:10-10:30 Sat-Sun 12:40-1:30-3:35-4-4:30-6:40-7:30-9:45-10-10:30 Mon 5-5:30-8:30-9 Tue-Thu 4:15-5-5:30-7-10-8:30-9
Interstellar (PG) Fri-Sun 1:45-5:30-9:15 Mon-Thu 4:30-8:15
The Metropolitan Opera: Carmen Encore (STC) Mon 6:30
Penguins of Madagascar (G) Fri-Sun 12:30-3-6:30 Mon-Thu 4:45-7:30
Penguins of Madagascar 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:55-4:05-7-9:45 Mon-Thu 4-6:20-8:40
The Theory of Everything (G) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:45-6:55-9:55 Mon-Thu 5:45-8:45

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TECHNOLOGY PACKAGE**
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TECHNOLOGY PACKAGE**
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BASE PACKAGE**
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ELITE PACKAGE	\$45,800 + GST
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2013	STK# 2150643A
BASE PACKAGE	\$33,900 + GST
2013	STK# 2150479A
BASE PACKAGE	\$35,700 + GST

SEDANS

2013 ILX	STK# 2150281A
BASE PACKAGE	\$22,500 + GST
2011 TSX	STK# 2150406A
TECHNOLOGY PACKAGE	\$24,400 + GST
2012 TL	STK# 2150557A
TECHNOLOGY PACKAGE	\$24,900 + GST
2013 ILX	STK# 2150239A
PREMIUM PACKAGE	\$24,900 + GST



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Bonding time with the Spectre set

British actress Naomi Harris, left, French actress Lea Seydoux, British actor Daniel Craig, Italian actress Monica Bellucci and Austrian actor Christoph Waltz will star in the next James Bond film Spectre, in a new outing promising a strong dose of 007 nostalgia. The movie — titled after a global criminal organization featuring in the early Bond films — will be shot in Mexico City, Rome and Tangiers and will also see Britain's famous spy returning to the ski slopes, in Austria, director Sam Mendes said on Thursday at Pinewood Studios. AFP

Bad guys club

Smith, Leto, Hardy suit up for Suicide Squad

Will Smith, Jared Leto and Tom Hardy are suiting up for DC Comics' supervillain team-up film Suicide Squad.

Warner Bros. confirmed the much anticipated casting of the film in an announcement Tuesday.

Smith will star as Deadshot, Hardy will play the group's leader, Rick Flagg, and Leto will take on the Joker, following in Heath Ledger's footsteps.

The rest of the gang will be Margot Robbie as Harley Quinn; Jai Courtney as Boomerang; and Cara Delevingne as Enchantress. David Ayer, who recently released the Second World War tank thriller Fury, will write and direct.

Suicide Squad is to be released in August 2016.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Animated short. Frozen franchise shows no signs of cooling as film announced

Frozen favourites Anna, Elsa, and Olaf are headed back to the big screen in a new short film.

Walt Disney Animation Studios announced Wednesday it plans to show Frozen Fever in front of the live-action-

tion Cinderella that opens in theatres March 13.

The short reunites the Oscar-winning directing team from Frozen: Jennifer Lee and Chris Buck.

It will tell the story of Elsa and Kristoff's attempt to plan a birthday party for Anna.

Frozen is the fifth-highest grossing film of all time, with over \$1.27 billion worldwide, and it continues to resonate with audiences.

Disney has had massive success with live-action

updates of its animated classics, including 2014's Maleficent. But the promise of a Frozen short with Cinderella will likely prove to be icing on their fairy tale cake.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Rachel beams Ray of sunshine at Ms. Goop and MaStew



NED
EHRBAR
Metro in Hollywood

In the ongoing conflict between home living guru Martha Stewart and self-styled upstart Gwyneth Paltrow, Rachael Ray has decided to be the Switzerland.

During a visit to Watch What Happens Live, Ray was pressed to take a side in the dispute and chose to remain neutral.

"I'm on team food. I think everybody who likes to eat has a different take on it and everybody's opinion should be respected," she tells Andy Cohen.



"I love Gwyneth Paltrow. I think that she is very devoted to everything she puts her mind to, and I think she is really a brilliant cookbook author. She writes in many different disciplines."

And Stewart?

"I have to have nothing but respect for Martha Stewart. She is a forerunner. I wouldn't have a job without the people who came before me ... Martha Stewart created an avenue for women who work in lifestyle television — period. You have to have respect for all people's opinions ... in my opinion."



Loni Anderson GETTY IMAGES

The way to Burt's art is through ex Loni's auction

If Burt Reynolds can auction off a whole bunch of personal junk, then so can ex-wife Loni Anderson.

The former WKRP in Cincinnati star is looking to unload nearly 65 items she received from Reynolds over the years, including a nearly-nude portrait of Anderson.

"He loved art, so he would go pick out a favorite artist and then he would commission them to do a portrait of me," Anderson says. "So pretty soon, there are a lot of portraits of me."

So, um, any takers?

Ho! Ho! Hoax! Axl Rose not dead yet

Good news for Guns N' Roses fans! The reports of singer Axl Rose's death have been greatly exaggerated.

A fake MSNBC report — much like the recent hoax claiming Macaulay Culkin had perished — went out recently claiming that Rose, 52, had been found dead in his West Hollywood home.

But while totally bogus, the hoax did raise at least one question for the man himself: "If I'm dead do I still have to pay taxes?" he tweeted.

Personally, I'm still reeling from the fact that Axl Rose is 52 now.



Axl Rose GETTY IMAGES



Miley Cyrus INSTAGRAM

Miami has itself a merry little Cyrus as Miley brings the silver and bold

What would the holidays be without a little tinsel? Or a lot, for that matter.

While down in Miami for Art Basel, Miley Cyrus decked her halls with a silver tinsel wig, sheer silver tights and glittery mirror ball pasties — oh, and a silver over-the-

shoulder thong, which I didn't know was actually a thing.

She performed at the annual event's opening night party, telling the crowd, "You thought this was a respected place where you could escape me?" 'Tis the season, y'all.

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Ricardo is a Canadian chef, television host and author on a mission: To unite people through the pleasure of food. Discover his delicious and simple recipes every Friday — just in time for the weekend

Turn up the heat



This recipe serves four. COURTESY RICARDOCUISINE.COM

Shrimp and Coconut Milk Thai Soup.

Although this recipe requires a long list of ingredients, it comes together in a snap



RICARDO COOKS
Chef Ricardo
Ricardo Magazine

As most of the country heads toward a deep freeze (or at least colder weather), wanderlust is inevitable.

What's the best solution — short of jumping on a flight to somewhere warm?

Exotic flavours inspired by lands far, far away with key ingredients that include coconut, curry and plenty of delicious heat.

This Shrimp and Coconut Milk Thai Soup is a perfect example of such a warming and exotic meal.

Don't be intimidated by the list of ingredients.

This soup is so quick to prepare that it's worth serving as a meal-in-a-bowl.

1. In a large saucepan, brown the shiitake mushrooms and jalapeno pepper (or pepper sauce) in the oil. Season with salt and pepper. Add the garlic, fresh ginger, tomato paste and curry powder, paprika and cinnamon, and sauté for 1 to 2 minutes.

2. Add the coconut milk, chicken broth, snow peas (or broccoli), lime zest and lime juice. Bring to a boil and simmer gently for about 3 minutes or until the peas are al dente.

3. Add the shrimp and bring to a boil. Continue cooking for about 2 minutes or until the shrimp are cooked. Adjust the seasoning. When ready to serve, garnish with green onions.

FOLLOW RICARDO ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND ON RICARDOCUISINE.COM OR SUBSCRIBE TO HIS MAGAZINE'S ENGLISH EDITION, WHICH LAUNCHED THIS SEPTEMBER!

Ingredients

- 8 shiitake mushrooms, sliced
- 1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and finely chopped, or hot pepper sauce, to taste
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) vegetable oil
- Salt and pepper
- 4 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 2 tbsp fresh ginger, chopped
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) tomato paste
- 1 tbsp curry powder
- 2 tsp ground paprika
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 2 cans (14 oz/398 ml) coconut milk
- 2 cups (500 ml) chicken broth
- 2 cups snow peas, cut lengthwise into three strips or broccoli florets
- Grated zest of 2 limes
- Juice of 1/2 lime
- 1 1/2 lb (675 g) shelled raw shrimp, with or without the tail
- 3 green onions, thinly sliced diagonally

Liquid Assets

Warm up wine glasses



LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

I'm not sure where the year went, but here we are in chilly December dreaming of summer and a wine to warm up our evenings. Port tops my list.

The last to comply, Canadian wineries have finally agreed to leave its name off their labels, so the term port will only appear on bottles from its true homeland of Portugal.

Winemakers in Canada have chosen the term "tawny" to identify their fortified wines that pay homage to the real stuff.

In the wine world, port is an odd duck. Best served with only a slight chill, its boozy bouquet and muscular punch of berry doesn't play well with novice palates.

Pigeonholed as an after dinner sipper, its stand alone sensibility works brilliantly with blue and cheddar cheeses, almonds, walnuts, dried fruit and chocolate.



Warre's Otima 10 Year Old Port (500 ml, \$22.90 - \$27.99) is a 21st-century take on a true tawny.

Bright and fruity, with a relaxed flavour flow, it's a tasty way to embrace winter. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**



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Mix up your wine and spirits this season

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Broaden your palate and try any of these for some holiday cheer

PETER
ROCKWELL
For Metro

While it may be the most wonderful time of year to get innovative with your liquid gift-giving, it's likely many of you reach for the same old bottle when spreading holiday cheers. Wine and spirit fans come in all shapes, sizes and levels of engagement, so here are some unique ideas to make their season merry.

For the wine newbie

If you know someone who's treading water when it comes to expanding their vinous horizons, these wines will open their minds and palates.

Apothic 2012 Red (California, \$15.95*): The wine that started the sweet red phenomenon still leads the pack with its cocktail-like balance of sugar and ripe berry sweetness.

The Grinder 2012 Pinotage (South Africa, \$13.95): No baristas were harmed in the making of this wine. This wild berry red gets its fusion of mocha, java, and chocolate from oak aging.

Montalto 2013 Pinot Grigio (Italy, \$8.95): Fun to say and easy to drink; pinot grigio is the "it" white grape of the 21st century. Soft, fruity and with crisp acidity, this Sicilian delivers as much flavour as a version at twice the price.

Jacob's Creek 2013 Moscato (Australia, \$11.45): Light in alcohol, but big in round, tropical flavours makes this the perfect entry-level white.

For the wine enthusiast

Have someone on your list who knows their way around a wine glass? These wines will pop their cork.

Monte Antico 2009 Toscano IGT (Italy, \$15.95): A baby Super Tuscan made from sangiovese, merlot and cabernet sauvignon. She's loaded with plum, black cherry and dark anise with an astonishing balance of tannins and acid.

Ringbolt 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon (Australia, \$19.85): Down Under is no slouch when it comes to cabernet. Calling Western Australia's Margaret River home, Ringbolt's one meaty, mouthful of black fruit.

Caymus 2011 Conundrum White (California, \$24.95): The original New World white blend combines over five different grapes to reach its goal of peach, melon, citrus and pepper spice.

La Fiole du Pape Châteauneuf-du-Pape (France, \$39.95): A crooked bottle covered in a dirty glaze has made this red the most recognized wine in the Rhône Valley. A mix of multiple vintages, its textured,

earthy mouth-feel is seductively accessible.

For the whisky lover
Scotland doesn't own the rights to great whisky and these tasty versions think outside the bottle.

Writer's Tears Pot Still Irish Whiskey (Ireland, \$50.75): The champagne of Irish whiskeys and a style favoured by that country's prolific writing community who love its old-school expression of honey, fruit and flowers.

Glen Breton Rare Canadian Whisky (Nova Scotia, \$79.80): The lightly-malted flavour of Canada's only single malt whisky will appeal to scotch nerds and all brown spirit enthusiasts.

Canadian Club Chairman's Select 100% Rye (Canada, \$27.25): We're known for rye. If you know a Mad Men fan, this thick, rich rye has their name on it.

For the sparkling wine fan

Add some sparkle to their season with a gift that's fun and fizzy.

Freixenet Cordon Negro Brut Cava (Spain, \$13.95): Made like champagne, this Spaniard pushes all the bubbly buttons and makes a solid foundation for your Christmas morning mimosa.

Fresita (Chile, \$13.95): For the mixology impaired. This sparkler is married with Chilean strawberries to create a fruit-fest.

Bollinger Special Cuvée Brut Champagne (France, \$75.95):

Bollinger has been James Bond's brand since Pierce Brosnan first played the role, which makes this non-vintage version the perfect go-to gift for a '007' fan.

If money is no object

Something for those who have been very good this year.

Bottega 2009 Il Vino Prêt-à-Porter Riserva Amarone della Valpolicella Classico (Italy, \$99.95): Wrapped in leather and studs, this full-bodied Italian red will appeal to anyone with fashion sense and collectors who want their wines to cellar for at least five years.

Rémy Martin Louis XIII Cognac (France, \$3,100): You can find more expensive booze, but this king of cognac — made from a blend of spirits up to 100 years old — is a bucket list brandy in a Baccarat crystal decanter.

Grey Goose VX Vodka (France, \$100):

Miles ahead of the flock of ultra-premium vodka, this re-interpretation of Grey Goose is in limited supply and lands with a hint of cognac added to the blend.

Patron Añejo Tequila (Mexico, \$99.95): This tequila begs to be sipped.

*Prices reflect the range across the country. Some products may not be available in all provinces.

Left to right:
Fresita, \$13.95;
Bollinger Special Cuvée Brut Champagne, \$75.95; Patron Añejo, \$99.95.



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The best way to watch movies



MIKE
YAWNEY
For Metro

Bring the movies home this holiday season. Instead of buying every family member a gift, go big and purchase a home theatre everyone can enjoy together. From curved screens to projectors, the choices are endless. Here are some of the best options to enjoy true movie magic.

LG 55EC9300 Curved OLED TV \$4,999.99

If you've never seen an OLED display, you



don't know what you're missing. Not only is this 4K television insanely thin (5.08 mm), it displays rich colour and perfect blacks. The screen is also curved to create a more immersive viewing experience, drawing you into the action. With a price tag just shy of \$5,000 you have to be pretty darn good for Santa to deliver this under the tree.

Samsung 55" Curved UHD TV \$4,199

Ultra-high definition televisions (4K) have four times the resolution of traditional high definition. This panel features four HDMI inputs so you can hook all your high-definition devices up without running out of space. What sets many Samsung TVs apart from the rest is the ability to upgrade processors after you buy them, which means you'll always have the latest technology. Keep in mind that Ultra-HD and 4K content is still limited.



Vizio 60" E Series Smart TV \$949.99

Proof you don't have to break the bank to get a big screen home for the holidays. New to Canada, the Vizio brand is known for bringing great picture quality at affordable prices. This stunning 60" display has lots of bells and whistles, including premium apps, and built-in Wi-Fi, yet the price is significantly cheaper than the competition.

BenQ HT1075 Projector \$999.99

You don't always need a lot of space to install a projector in your home theatre. This projector from BenQ is



able to create a 100" HD image on any wall with as little as eight feet. The optional wireless package allows you to stream 1080p HD content from your favourite device across the room with no wires.

Epson 5030UB \$2,999.99

With ultra-black levels and THX certification, this premium projector is a movie buff's dream. Epson's 5030UB can project in both 2D and 3D on a screen up to 300 inches. It's not cheap, but when you consider how much money it is to take your family to the movies, this gorgeous projector will pay itself off in no time. Available online only.



Logitech Harmony Smart Keyboard \$149.99

A wireless keyboard, touchpad and remote control all in one. This handy device makes it easier to search for shows, and navigate menus on media devices like Roku and Apple TV. Activity buttons offer a one-touch solution to turning on your entertainment system without searching for individual remotes. Controls up to eight devices at once.

Sennheiser RS180 Wireless Headphones \$499.99

Tired of telling your family to turn down the volume on the television when you go to bed? These headphones may be the perfect gift. Comfortable fit with superb sound quality, these wireless headphones connect to devices giving you a personal audio experience without disturbing others. The wireless range is impressive, letting you walk as far as 328 feet from the base.



Apple TV \$109

A handy little device which lets you watch movies, listen to music, and stream photos and videos from your Mac, iPad and iPhone to your television. Although the hardware hasn't been updated in a couple of years, it still remains one of the smallest and easiest to use devices for accessing Netflix.

From left, **top row:** Logitech Harmony Smart Keyboard, \$149.99; Samsung 55" Curved UHD TV, \$4,199; BenQ HT1075 Projector, \$999.99; **middle row:** Apple TV, \$109; Epson 5030UB, \$2,999.99; **bottom row:** Vizio 60" E Series Smart TV, \$949.99; LG 55EC9300 Curved OLED TV, \$4,999.99.

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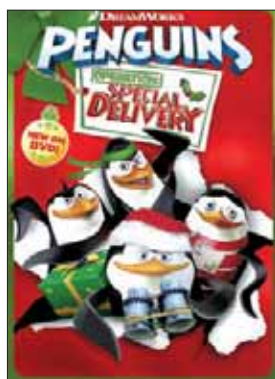
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Ho ho home viewing for the holidays

Yuletide TV. Any of these shows will get you in the festive spirit

RICK
MCGINNIS
For Metro

Once upon a time we used to comb the TV guide with a pencil looking for the seasonal screenings of our favourite Christmas movies or TV specials — those annual chestnuts that we relied on to put us in our Yuletide happy place while the season's deadlines and shopping lists threatened to

snuff out our Christmas spirit with a Grinch-like meanness.

Now, several TV shows have collected their holiday episodes and specials on DVD for the holidays.

For kids there's Octonauts: A Very Vegimal Christmas (Octonauts), Thomas & Friends: The Christmas Engines (Universal), Peppa Pig: Peppa's Christmas (EOne), and Penguins of Madagascar: Operation Special Delivery (ANConnect).

For grown-ups there's The Big Bang Theory: Holiday Episodes (Warner), Robot Chicken's Christmas Specials (Warner), and the inevitable

Christmas Classics

- Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer debuted on NBC on Dec. 6, 1964, while A Charlie Brown Christmas first aired on CBC, Dec. 9, 1965, and won an Emmy.

DVD reissues of the Bing Crosby chestnut White Christmas (Paramount) and Alistair Sim's essential A Christmas Carol (VCI) — colourized, so be warned. And if your Christmas has been altogether too peace-

ful and tasteful, there's Here Comes Honey Boo-Boo: A Very Boo Christmas (Discovery).

Finally, there's an informal home video tradition that Christmas is the season when overlooked classic films get dusted off and given the deluxe reissue treatment. This year KI Studio Classics has dug out Pocketful of Miracles, the last feature by Frank Capra (It's A Wonderful Life) starring Bette Davis, Glenn Ford and Ann-Margret, in a story about a gangster who helps a poor street vendor keep up the illusion that she's a grand society dame when her daughter visits from Europe.

Box sets for the TV lover

If someone on your Christmas list has asked for a honking fat box set of TV shows or movies, it's because they understand that Christmas isn't just the holly, jolly holiday near the end of the year, but the last time to stockpile entertainment for a long, tedious winter.

The big score this season is undoubtedly **Breaking Bad: The Complete Series** (Sony), which comes packaged in a little chemical barrel with a printed episode guide, something called a "commemorative challenge coin" and an apron from Los Pollos Hermanos, Gustavo Fring's meth-brewing front business. Bonus material includes a two-hour documentary on the show, character profiles of Walt, Hank, Marie, Saul, Jesse and Skyler, and more.

Another cable series that recently completed its run is **True Blood**, which HBO is re-releasing in a complete series set that includes the secret files of Vamp Camp, and an interactive feature that helps you untangle the complicated relationships



between characters both before and during its seven seasons.

For shut-ins of a certain generation, the top of their wishlist is probably occupied by **Peewee's Playhouse: The Complete Series** (Shout Factory), the giddy and abidingly strange "is it really a children's TV show?" that was a favourite of Generation X during its mid-to-late '80s run. All forty-five episodes are here, as well as bonus features on the making of the show, the music, and reminiscences by actors and fans.

RICK MCGINNIS/FOR METRO



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Oilers

MacT to address losing streak

With the Oilers on an 11-game losing streak, general manager Craig MacTavish will meet the media Friday morning at Rexall Place, the team said in a news release.

MacTavish "will address the Oilers' performance through 26 games and take questions," according to the club. The news conference is set for 9 a.m. local time.

The Oilers have not won a game since beating the New York Rangers on Nov. 9. They have earned only four points since.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canucks 3, Penguins 0

Lack shuts out Pittsburgh

Brad Richardson scored two goals and added an assist, and Eddie Lack posted his fifth NHL shut-out to lift the Vancouver Canucks to another road win, 3-0 over the short-handed Pittsburgh Penguins on Thursday night.

The Canucks, in the midst of a season-high seven-game trip, won their league-best 11th road game. Vancouver, which has won five of six overall, beat the Penguins in Pittsburgh for the first time since Nov. 22, 2008.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beliveau's playoff stats

A story in Thursday's Metro on Jean Béliveau should have read that the Canadiens great was the all-time leading playoff scorer with 176 points in 162 games at the time of his retirement in 1971.

Alfie finally back 'where he belongs'

Retirement. Former captain skates final laps before Sens game

Daniel Alfredsson laced up his skates at his old stall in the Senators' locker-room and put on the No. 11 jersey with the "C" on the chest just like old times. Except this was anything like old times.

Players stepped onto the ice for warm-ups and made a receiving line for the man who earlier in the day announced his retirement. They tapped their sticks and Alfredsson saluted the adoring crowd for the first of many times as "Alfie" chants rained down.

A remix of Alfredsson's former goal song and one of his favourites, U2's Beautiful Day, played. This was a one-of-a-kind moment for a one-of-a-kind face of the franchise.

The traditional countdown to 11 minutes on the clock happened even before the game against the New York Islanders. Alfredsson met with team leaders Erik Karlsson, Chris Phillips and Chris Neil as he always used to, took a few line rushes and got to take part in his favourite post-practice game of keep-away.

"Being a part of it, in Ot-



Rookie season, 1995 GETTY IMAGES



Calder winner, June '96 ALLSPORT



Vs. Leafs, April '04 GETTY IMAGES



The Senators welcome Daniel Alfredsson to the ice for warm-up before Thursday's game against the New York Islanders. FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS



Gold-medal game, '06 GETTY IMAGES



Stanley Cup final, '07 GETTY IMAGES



Winter Classic, '14 GETTY IMAGES

tawa, this is where he belongs," Neil, who played 11 seasons with Alfredsson, said before the game. "If it happened in Detroit it just wouldn't be the same."

Karlsson, the ninth captain in Senators history and

Alfredsson's best friend on the team, even took the "C" off his jersey for warm-ups.

While the Islanders went about their business, no Ottawa player left the ice until Alfredsson took one last lap with his stick raised. The 41-year-old signed a ceremonial one-day contract in order to retire with the Sens.

Alfredsson took one more lap, with the spotlight on him, and stood at centre ice waiting for wife Bibi and sons Hugo, Loui, Fenix and William Erik to join him. They took their place

on the red carpet like Ottawa royalty, and Alfredsson thanked the fans "for all the great moments and all the beautiful memories."

He didn't want to say goodbye. The Alfredsson family sang along to O Canada, and then the former captain had a ceremonial faceoff with the puck dropped by the kids.

Alfredsson, who promised this year would be for his family, skated off alongside his wife as he left the ice at Canadian Tire Centre for the final time. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MacArthur gives up his spot

"There's going to be a lot of jitters. I'm already nervous. I don't know why as it has nothing to do with me, but it's going to be a big night."

Senators winger Clarke MacArthur who didn't mind being relegated to a corner seat in the locker-room to allow Daniel Alfredsson to return to his regular stall one last time

Ribeiro, Preds ruin Brodeur's Blues debut



Predators forward Gabriel Bourque has his shot stopped by Blues goalie Martin Brodeur on Thursday in Nashville. MARK ZALESKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mike Ribeiro scored the winning goal and had two assists, and the Nashville Predators spoiled goalie Martin Brodeur's debut with the Blues by beating St. Louis 4-3 on Thursday night.

The 42-year-old Brodeur made 20 saves in his first start for a team other than the New Jersey Devils. The Blues signed the four-time Vezina Trophy winner on Tuesday, tapping the NHL's goalie leader in games, wins and shutouts to help with Brian Elliott, who is sidelined

On Thursday

4

Predators

3

Blues

by a knee injury.

Rookie Filip Forsberg had a goal and an assist, and Eric Nystrom and Colin Wilson had a goal apiece as the Predators improved to 11-1-1 at

home. The Predators snapped a six-game skid to the Blues in Nashville and took the Central Division lead.

Vladimir Tarasenko scored two goals, and Jaden Schwartz added one for the Blues, who lost for the second time in two nights.

Brodeur, 688-394-176 in 21 seasons with the New Jersey Devils — with whom he won three Stanley Cup titles — shut out the Predators the last time he faced them on Nov. 13, 2013.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 SPORTS



John Cornish is the 2014 CFL all-star running back. JACK CUSANO/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Stamps have five 2014 CFL all-stars

Cornish leads. Jones, Bryant, Smith and Wall join Elimimian and others

The post-season accolades continue to roll in for Solomon Elimimian.

The B.C. Lions linebacker was named to the 2014 CFL all-star team Thursday. The move was hardly a surprise, as Elimimian took home the CFL's most outstanding player and top defensive player awards last month.

Elimimian, the first pure defensive player to win the CFL's top individual honour, had a huge 2014 season with 143 defensive tackles and 151 total tackles, both league records, and added five sacks.

It's the second career all-star nod for Elimimian.

The Edmonton Eskimos had the most nominations to the all-star team with seven.

Running back John White, receiver Adarius Bowman and guard Simeon Rottier were called to represent the Eskimos on the offensive side, while defensive linemen Almondo Sewell and Odell Willis, linebacker Dexter McCoil and cornerback Patrick Watkins were named from Edmonton's defence.

The 2014 Grey Cup champion Calgary Stampeders had five players named to the team, led by star Canadian running back Jon Cornish.

Cornish led the league in rushing despite only playing half of the regular season.

Centre Brett Jones, offensive tackle Stanley Bryant and defensive backs Brandon Smith and Jamar Wall were Calgary's other representatives.

Brandon Banks, whose electrifying returns helped Hamilton advance to the Grey Cup final, was named as the special teams player.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nominations

Other CFLers who made the leagues all-star team:

- **Hamilton.** Defensive tackle Ted Laurent and cornerback Delvin Breaux
- **Toronto.** Quarterback Ricky Ray, slotback Chad Owens and Swayze Waters (kicker and punter)
- **B.C.** Offensive tackle Jovan Olafioye
- **Saskatchewan.** Offensive guard Brendon LaBatte, defensive end John Chick, safety Tyron Brackenridge
- **Montreal.** Receiver Duron Carter, linebacker Bear Woods
- **Winnipeg.** Receiver Clarence Denmark

Next up

Cohon leaves CFL helm in January

Life after the CFL will begin in early January for Mark Cohon.

The league announced Thursday that Cohon will step down as commissioner Jan. 9 under a mutual agreement between Cohon and the league's board of governors. Board chairman Jim Lawson will then assume the role of interim commissioner until Cohon's replacement is found.

Lawson also heads up the committee that's searching for a successor. Cohon's contract as commissioner expires in April.

"Excellent candidates have come forward and while there is no firm deadline for naming the next commissioner, the process is going well," Lawson said in a statement.

It's unclear if the league bought out the remainder of Cohon's contract or will continue to pay him through completion of the deal. Cohon wasn't available for comment Thursday.

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Saunders' dream is close to reality

Playing for the Blue Jays. Former Mariners outfielder and 'proud Canadian' will realize something special when he represents Toronto



Michael Saunders GETTY IMAGES

Michael Saunders used to daydream about playing for the Toronto Blue Jays. It won't be long before he gets to do it in real life.

A day after Toronto acquired the Canadian outfielder in a deal with the Seattle Mariners, Saunders spoke about getting the opportunity to ply his trade on home soil.

"I think it was more of a storybook ending for me if you would, like, 'One day it would be really cool if I was able to wear a Blue Jays uniform,'" Saunders said on a conference call Thursday.

"There's 30 teams and the chances are slim that that would actually happen.

"I'm honoured to be able to wear a Blue Jay uniform and I'm very proud of that."

The Victoria native, who spent 10 years with the Seattle organization, played for Canada at the World Baseball Classic in 2013 and said he understands the

burden that comes with playing north of the border.

"I'm a proud Canadian," said the 28-year-old, who cheered for the Blue Jays and Mariners growing up. "If I was to get traded to a team I couldn't pick a better one than Toronto."

"I'm extremely excited to play for the Blue Jays, but it's not just about representing the Blue Jays, it's about representing my country."

Saunders hit .273 with eight home runs and 34 RBIs in 78 games last season while battling joint inflammation in his right shoulder and a strained left oblique.

It's expected Saunders will take over in left field for Melky Cabrera, who declined the Blue Jays' \$15.3-million US qualifying offer last month and is a free agent.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Puchner powers to fastest training run

Mirjam Puchner of Austria races down the hill during the third training run for the World Cup women's downhill ski race on Thursday in Lake Louise, Alta. Puchner and fellow Austrian Anna Fenninger were fastest, while U.S. star Lindsey Vonn was 13th in the final training run for the season-opening World Cup women's downhill on Thursday. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Curling

Homan's team steals late victory

Rachel Homan drew to the button with her final stone to

score one and beat Heather Nedohin 5-4 on Thursday in a battle of unbeaten teams at the Home Hardware Canada Cup curling tournament.

Homan's Ottawa rink scored singles in the first,

second, fourth, sixth and 10th ends to improve to 3-0 and remain the only undefeated foursome on the women's side of the draw. Edmonton's Nedohin now sits at 2-1. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries

March 21 - April 20

You will be your assertive self today and over the weekend. That's good because you need to let people know you're serious about your ambitions.

♉ Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Something you have been working hard towards is most likely not worth the effort, but that's OK. Once you accept that, you can make other plans.

♊ Gemini

May 22 - June 21

The approaching full moon will affect you more than most because it takes place in your sign, and if you get through the next few days emotionally unscathed count yourself lucky!

♋ Cancer

June 22 - July 23

You seem to be on the defensive and that's probably no bad thing. Most likely no one is out to get you but it will pay you to be cautious anyway.

♌ Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

You may be easygoing by nature but the approaching full moon warns you need to stay sharp over the next 48 hours. Also, don't say things just to make others feel good.

♍ Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Anyone who thinks you lack the killer instinct will have to revise their opinion now that you have a specific target to aim for. Nothing and no one will be allowed to stand in your way.

♎ Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

You may be rather emotional over the next few days but what of it? The planets indicate your tears are just as likely to be tears of joy as tears of sorrow.

♏ Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You won't be happy to discover that someone has been digging around in your personal affairs, and quite right too. Not that you've got a guilty conscience but your business is private.

♐ Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Your main task today is to look rationally at what is upsetting you. Stand back from your personal feelings and ask yourself if it is of any real importance. Most likely it isn't.

♑ Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Try not to focus on details today because if you do you could miss the bigger picture. You will need to look both far and deep to stay a step ahead of rivals.

♒ Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

Accept that something you've been working on is not going to be the success you envisioned. Chances are though you will be quite happy to call it a day as it frees up time.

♓ Pisces

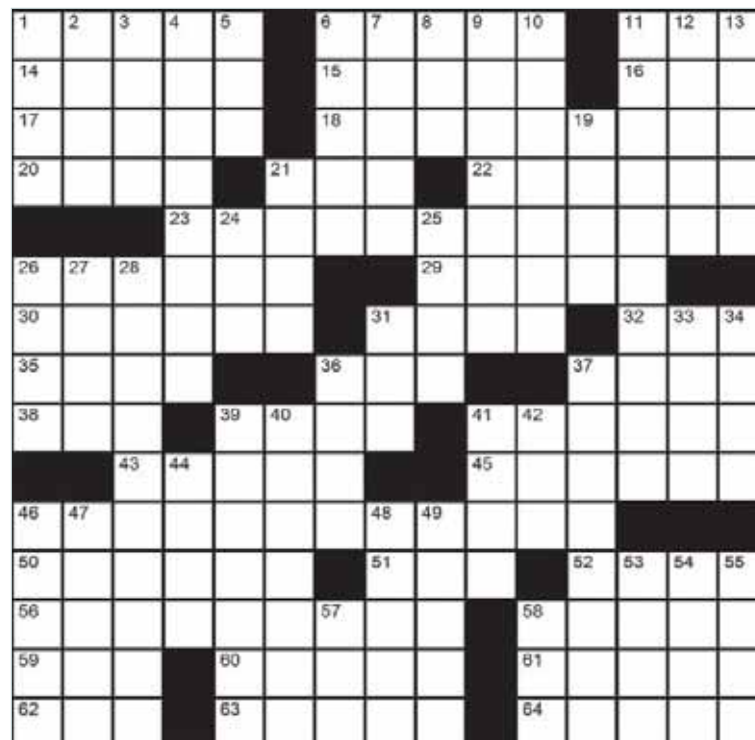
Feb. 20 - March 20

You may exchange a heated words with someone and the bad feeling will continue into the weekend. It will all be over come the start of next week.

Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan

Across

1. Canadian actress Ms. Follows
6. Cop ____ (Bargain in court)
11. Platter mixture
14. Lofty layer
15. Jennifer of "Flashdance" (1983)
16. ____ hurry
17. Hockey great Mr. Hull
18. Travels across Europe
20. Wrapped garment
21. Outlying
22. Basket-__ sword
23. 1981 prehistoric movie for Canadian actress Rae Dawn Chong: 3 wds.
26. Clues/trail follow lower
29. Joe Cocker's "You ____ Beautiful"
30. ____ algebra
31. Sea eagles [var. sp.]
32. Non-verbal 'yes'
35. Hosp. readouts
36. 'Tour' suffix
37. Ms. Flynn Boyle
38. Techie erase button
39. Langley and Edwards, e.g., in The States
41. The Water-__ (Aquarius)
43. Basket fibre
45. 'Small Community Big Heart' in Manitoba
46. Blue Rodeo song:



2 wds.

50. Theatre workers
51. "Case of the Ex" songstress
52. ____ Sea, in Central Asia
56. Navigation instruments
58. "Hard Sun" by ____ aka Canadian musi-

59. ____ carte
60. Yo-Yo Ma's instrument
61. BC - Haida Gwaii: UNESCO World Heritage Site, ____ Gwaay
62. Ottawa polit.
63. 50 Cent album: 'Get Rich or Die ____'

64. Checks

Down

1. Gangster groupings
2. Ian Harding's role on "Pretty Little Liars", ____ Fitz
3. Movie-__
4. "____ Roadshow"
5. Butterfly catcher
6. "Dancing Queen" group's
7. Rush drummer Neil
8. Lake: French
9. Manitoba village, 'An Age Friendly Community'
10. Ambitiously aims
11. French-English/English-French book

12. Type of comic book artist
13. ____ deux (Duet's dance)
19. Planet Melmac alien's
21. Canadian actor Brendan
24. Marathoner Ms. Pippig
25. Countryside sight
26. Wintertime hill ride
27. Admire
28. BC: ____ River Falls Provincial Park
31. Feminine suffix
33. Baseball's Mr. Hershisser
34. Challenge
36. "____ to differ."
37. ZZ Top song: 2 wds.
39. Draw
40. One using dental thread
41. "Who Let the Dogs Out" by ____ Men
42. Earlier, poetically
44. Bit of choreography
46. 1986 Corey Haim film
47. Serenader's song: "____ Mio"
48. Ms. Sande of song
49. Actress Cicely
53. Nutrition amts.
54. BTO's "You ____ Seen Nothing Yet"
55. Cabin-creating components
57. Knavish
58. 'Capital' suffix

Yesterday's Crossword



Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers



Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku



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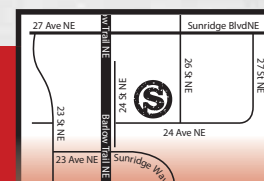
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